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1867-2002 • 1867-2002 OUR 135TH YEAR BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 125, Number 1

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

January 2002

General Baptist Bookstore News

By Dr. Jimmie Whitehurst, Executive Manager

May God bless each of you! Thank you for supporting the work and ministry of the General Baptist Bookstore. We have had a very successful year. We attended three National Conventions, GBSC sessions and carried the GBSC Bookmobile to over 32 Associations. I have preached in churches and logged over 38,000 miles in Convention Travel. We have assisted Executive Secretary-Treasurer Archie D. Logan Jr., in fieldwork and training sessions. God continues to shine on us.

Satellite Bookstore Opens

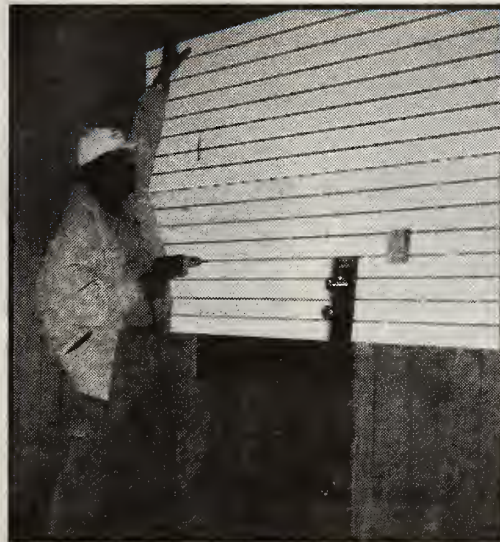
The General Baptist Bookstore joined in opening its first satellite bookstore, November 23, 2001, at the Saint Stephens Missionary Baptist Church, 507 York Street, Elizabeth City, N.C., 27909, 252-335-5003, Moderator Ricky Banks, Pastor. Those churches and Associations in the area are encouraged to support the bookstore.

If your Association or Church would like to have a Satellite Bookstore PLEASE contact me at or General Baptist Bookstore, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C., 800-639-GBSC; 919-839-2211.

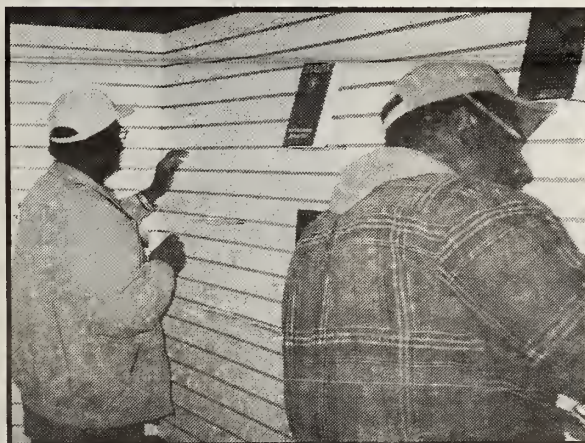
Vacation Bible School Materials

It is time to place your Vacation Bible School orders. Please call us so that we can order your materials now. If you have a special theme or would like for us to work with your church on an individual basis, we are here to serve you. Our goal is to have Vacation Bible School Literature in every church. This year we want you to order special youth bibles for each young person that participates in your vacation bible school. For many years we have waited to give bibles to high school graduates as gifts. Studies now reveal that we need to give bibles to children as soon as they can read.

We have several different types of bibles for children, youth and young adults, ORDER



Dr. Whitehurst installing bookstore shelving.



Dr. Whitehurst and Mr. William Dunston finishing shelving.

YOUR BIBLES TODAY for your young people.

SALE BOOKS

(These are recommended by Dr. Jasper Reed, Presi-

dent GBSC Congress of Christian Education and their Curriculum Committee).

Pat Springle, *Conquering Codependency*, \$12

Pat Springle, *Conquering Codependency Workbook*, \$6

Robert S. McGee, *Conquering Chemical Dependency*, \$12

Robert S. McGee, *Conquering Chemical Dependency Workbook*, \$6

Cynthia Kubetin, *Shelter From The Storm*, \$12

Cynthia Kubetin, *Shelter From The Storm Workbook*, \$6

OTHER SALE BOOKS

Haywood T. Gray, *A Ministry of Service* (Ushers), \$7

Lynn R. Buzzard, *Clergy Confidentially*, \$8

Baptist Church Incorporation in North Carolina, \$8

Render Unto Caesar — Church Liabilities, \$8

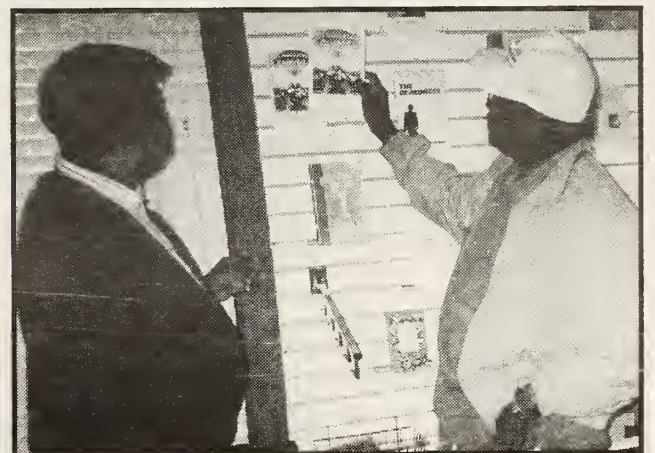
Geoffrey Guns, *Church Financial Management*, \$12

Robert A. Young, *A Development Of A Church Manual*, \$8

Call us today for these and other values. We also have Hymnals, Robes and Lord Supper Items.

ALSO IF WE DO NOT HAVE THE BOOKS YOU WANT IN STOCK, WE CAN GET THEM FOR YOU.

Support your own Bookstore: General Baptist Bookstore, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C., 800-639-GBSC; 919-839-2211.



Moderator Banks and Dr. Whitehurst viewing completed bookstore.

**135th YEAR
CELEBRATION
FEB. 14-16, 2002
MINISTERS' COUNCIL
2002 LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**

**EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH
2020 SUGAR CREEK ROAD
EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, CHARLOTTE, NC**

*Have a Blessed &
Happy New Year
...
from the staff
at GBSC, Inc.*

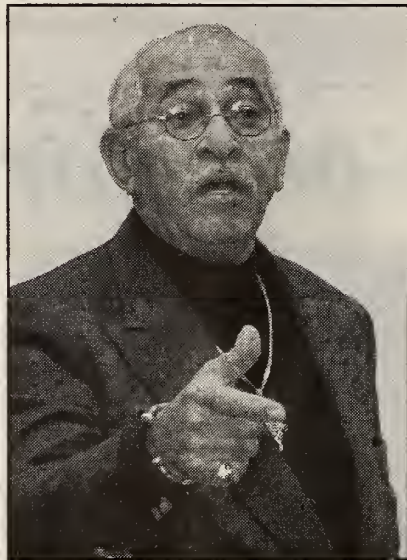
From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Rev. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

Prophets Still Possess The Land

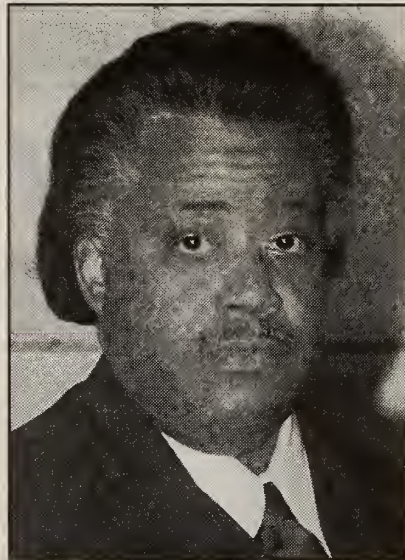
Greetings! First I want to thank each of you for supporting the mission and ministry of the Convention. God has blessed our work this past calendar year. We face another challenge in 2002. I want to also thank God for the opportunity to serve the General Baptist State Convention in this Millennium. Each January I reflect on the life, legacy and times of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 1929-1968, *American clergyman and civil rights leader*. Spend time reflecting on the work and ministry of Dr. King. We have come a long ways; God is a mighty presence in our lives. It is important that we remember where we came from. Join the General Baptist State Convention, Inc., in tributes to our past history.

Born in Atlanta, Ga., he graduated from Morehouse College (B.A., 1948), Crozer Theological Seminary (B.D., 1951) and Boston University (Ph.D., 1955). The son of the pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, King was ordained in 1947 and became Pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala. During his tenure he led the boycott (1955-56) by Montgomery blacks against the segregated city bus lines and he attained national prominence by advocating a policy of passive resistance to segregation. In 1956, he gained a major victory and prestige as a civil rights leader when the Montgomery buses began to operate on a desegregated basis. After the Montgomery success, King organized the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which gave him a base to pursue further civil rights activities, first in the South and later nationwide. His philosophy of nonviolent resistance led to his arrest on numerous occasions in the 1950s and 1960s.

He organized the massive March on Washington (August 28, 1963), which brought more than 200,000 people together. In 1964, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. King's leadership in the civil rights movement was challenged in the mid-1960s as others grew more militant. However, King's interests widened from civil rights to criticism of the Vietnam War and to a deeper concern for poverty. His plans for a Poor People's March to Washington were interrupted (1968) for a trip to Memphis, Tenn., in support of striking sanitation workers. On April 4, 1968, he was shot and killed by an assassin's bullet on the balcony



Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker speaking at Empowerment Seminar.



Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

of the motel where he was staying. James Earl Ray was later convicted of his murder. His birthday is an American national holiday, celebrated on the third Monday in January.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

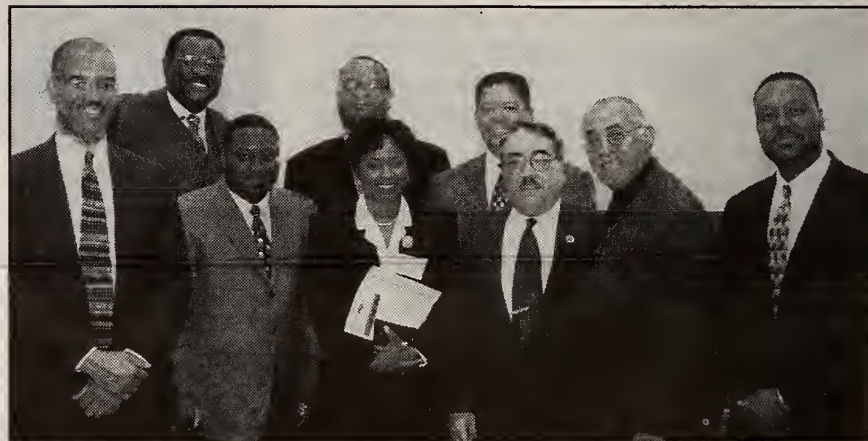
It took 15 years to create the federal Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. Congressman John Conyers, Democrat from Michigan, first introduced legislation for a commemorative holiday four days after King was assassinated April 4, 1968. After the bill became stalled, petitions endorsing the holiday containing six million names were submitted to Congress. Conyers and Rep. Shirley Chisholm, Democrat of New York, resubmitted King holiday legislation each subsequent legislative session. Public pressure for the holiday mounted during the 1982 and 1983 civil rights marches in Washington.

Congress passed the holiday legislation in 1983, which was then signed in law by President Ronald Reagan. A compromise moving the holiday from Jan. 15, King's birthday, which was considered too close to Christmas and New Year's, to the third Monday in January helped overcome opposition to the law.

National Consensus on the Holiday

A number of states resisted celebrating the holiday. Some opponents said King did

(Continued on next page)



Participants in the Empowerment Seminar: Attorney Darryl Smith, Dr. Thurman B. Everett, Dr. Johnny Freeman, Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., N.C. Court of Appeals Judge Loretta Biggs, N.C. Court of Appeals Judge James A. Wynn, Associate Supreme Court Justice G.K. Butterfield, Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker and Dr. Cornelius Battle.



Housing Award Recipients: Dr. W.B. Lewis, pastor, First Cosmopolitan Church in Raleigh, Dr. E.B. Turner, pastor, First Baptist Church in Lumberton. (His award was received by the Rev. Vincent Rozier of St. Pauls.)

The Baptist Informer

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists
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Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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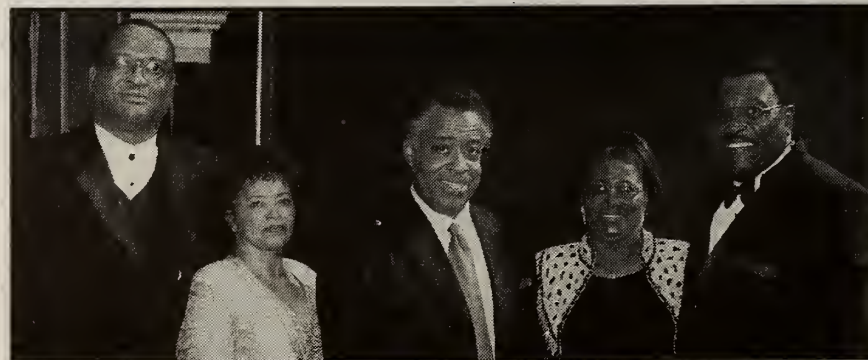
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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)



Dr. and Mrs. Archie D. Logan, Dr. Al Sharpton, Dr. and Mrs. Thurman B. Everett.

From the Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Greetings! The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina is available to work with your church during the time you do not have a Pastor. We will work with the Deacons and other officers to provide guidance as you search for a new pastor to lead your church.

Some of the things we offer:

- We have ordained Baptist ministers available to assist the Deacons in carrying out the Church Ordinances: Lord Supper and Baptism.
- We have ordained clergy who can serve as an "Interim Minister" in your church.

• Some suggested workshops:

- ✓ How To Select An Interim Pastor?
- ✓ How To Call A Pastor?
- ✓ How Much Should We Pay Our Pastor?
- ✓ Church Administration
- ✓ How To Plan A Church Budget?
- ✓ Effective Bible Study
- ✓ Evangelism Classes
- ✓ Special Training For Deacons/Trustees
- ✓ Christian Education Planning
- ✓ Church Development
- ✓ Please call if you are interested in any of these services!
1-800-639-GBSC (4272)

Prophets Still Possess the Land

not deserve his own holiday, while others cited the cost of giving workers another day off. Several southern states include celebrations for various Confederate generals on that day, while Utah calls it Human Rights Day. Legislation is now pending to change the name to Martin Luther King Day. Arizona voters approved the holiday in 1992 after a threatened tourist boycott. In 1999, New Hampshire changed the name of Civil Rights Day to MLK Day.

Modern Prophets

There are still Prophets in the land. I am still rejoicing over our 2001 Housing Empowerment Seminar and Banquet held December 7, in Greensboro, N.C. Like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., two Modern Prophets visited us: The Rev. Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker and Rev. Dr. Al Sharpton, both of New York City. Following in the King Legacy Drs. Walker and Sharpton made dynamic presentations on affordable housing and the role of the African-American church in the new Millennium. Often the prophet has a message that the people do not want to hear. Often the religious community turns its ear to the prophet's words. Often prophets are persecuted and exiled BUT they still proclaim the truth.

The prophet is called or appointed directly from God. Some prophets, like Jeremiah or John the Baptist, were called before birth (Jeremiah 1:5; Luke 1:13-16), but their privilege was not a birthright. Their authority came from God alone whose message they bore (Exodus 7:1). Who can match the eloquence and brilliance of Isaiah, the depth of emotion and melancholy of Jeremiah, or the dramatic and dogged spirit of Ezekiel? A prophetic call was a call to liberty and freedom to be oneself (John 8:31-32). It enabled the prophet to be unaffected by human bias and criticism. The call of prophet required that she/he not be intimidated or threatened by their audience (Jeremiah 1:7-8; Ezekiel 2:6). Both Walker and Sharpton brought a WORD from God.

A prophet sometimes became quite dramatic and acted out his message. Isaiah went naked and barefoot for three years (Isaiah 20:2-3). Al Sharpton and Wyatt Tee Walker have marched and protested. This year Sharpton went to jail and on a fast for justice. Ezekiel lay on his left side for 390 days and on his right side for 40 more (Ezekiel 4:1-8). Zechariah broke two staffs (Zechariah 11:7-14). Making themselves a spectacle, prophets not only aroused curiosity but also invited the scorn of their peers (Jeremiah 11:21). Except for God's call, prophets had no special qualifications. They appeared from all walks of life and classes of society. They included sheep-breeders and farmers like Amos (Amos 7:14), and Elisha (I Kings

19:19) but also princes like Abraham (Genesis 23:6) and priests like Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:3).

Even women and children became prophets (I Samuel 3:19-20; 2 Kings 22:14). In rare circumstances, God used the hesitant or unruly to bear his message. Balaam prophesied (Numbers 22:6-24:24) the Lord's message but was actually an enemy of God (2 Peter 2:15-16; Revelation 2:14). Saul certainly was not in fellowship with God when (I Samuel 10:23-24). Some prophets were called for a lifetime. But sometimes prophets spoke briefly and no more (Numbers 11:25-26). In either case, a prophet spoke with authority of the Holy Spirit (Numbers 11:29; 24:4). One trait characterized them all: a faithful proclamation of God's word and not their own (Jeremiah 23:16; Ezek. 13:2). Jesus' reference to Himself as a prophet in John 12:49-50 rests upon this standard of faithfully repeating God's word to the world.

The main role of the prophet was to bear God's word for the purpose of teaching, reproving, correcting, and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16). Whether warning of impending danger or disclosing God's will to the people, they were similar in function to the modern preacher in the church. Prophets were referred to as messengers of the Lord (Isaiah 44:26), servants of God (Amos 3:7), shepherds (Zechariah 11:4, 7; Jeremiah 17:16), and watchmen (Isaiah 62:6).

Wyatt Tee Walker encouraged the African-American Church to take a lead in community empowerment during the seminar at United Institutional Baptist Church. He talked about his years of affordable housing development. Also Mr. Dexter Perry, of A&B Asset Management Services; Mr. Alfred Dixon, MultiState Contractors; Mr. Joseph H. Young, AIA of Low Income Housing and others provided valuable information for churches and pastors. Also Associate Supreme Court Justice G.K. Butterfield led a seminar session on the "Judiciary Under Attack." Court of Appeal Judges Loretta Biggs, Judge Robert C. Hunter and James A. Wynn assisted him. We must become more aware and concerned about the state of our judicial system in North Carolina.

That night at the Housing Banquet Dr. Sharpton added that the church must be about service. "It is not the size of the church house but how many houses has your church provided for those in need?" IF YOU DID NOT ATTEND THESE ACTIVITIES PLEASE SECURE THE TAPES AND VIDEOS FROM Rev. Gene Hatley, 336-376-1810; 336-376-1820 fax; 919-968-6996. These resource materials will bless your ministry and help empower your people. The Housing Seminar and Banquet rank among our greatest events ever. PLEASE ORDER YOUR TAPES AND VIDEOS.

MINISTERS' COUNCIL 2002 LEADERSHIP SUMMIT FEBRUARY 14-16, 2002 EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH 2020 SUGAR CREEK ROAD, CHARLOTTE, NC

GUEST SPEAKERS:

REV. DR. J.D. BALLARD

Pastor of the United Metropolitan Missionary
Winston-Salem, NC

REV. DR. DONALD RAY HUDSON

Pastor of the Twelfth Street Baptist Church
Detroit, Michigan

135TH YEAR CELEBRATION

February 14-16, 2002

Ministers' Council • 2002 Leadership Summit
Ebenezer Baptist Church
2020 Sugar Creek Road, Charlotte, NC

Registration/Representation Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Church _____

Phone # _____ - _____

Pastor's registration \$50 _____

Associate Minister(s) @ \$40 each _____

Church representation \$400 Total _____

Please send registration form to:

GBSC: Ministers Council

603 S. Wilmington Street

Raleigh, NC 27601

800-639-GBSC (4272) — 919-821-7466



135TH YEAR CELEBRATION

ONE-DAY SESSION USHER'S CONVENTION

M.C. Benton Convention & Civic Center

301 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem, N.C.

February 23, 2002

Registration/Representation Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Church _____

Phone # _____ - _____

Personal registration \$10 per person _____

Number of messengers @ \$10 each _____

Church representation \$400 Total _____

Please send registration form to:

GBSC • One-Day Session Usher's Convention

603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601

800-639-GBSC (4272) — 919-821-7466



From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

From the Desk of Charles T. Bullock Vice President at Large

Between Yesterday and Tomorrow

Between indicates that a space exists from two focal points. Yesterday and tomorrow suggest that we are caught up in time inside of these focal points. To be between yesterday and tomorrow indicates to me that we can stand on the threshold of time and look backward at what was yesterday and look forward to what is to come on tomorrow. As one year closes and a new year begins, we find ourselves between the old and the new, yesterday and tomorrow.

The International Date Line is a dividing line between yesterday and tomorrow. When we cross the International Date Line, we either add a day or subtract a day. We are either in yesterday or tomorrow depending on our direction.

According to Acts 16:25, Paul and Silas were in prison "and at midnight" they "prayed and sang praises unto God." I would say they found themselves between yesterday and tomorrow. For midnight was a division of time that separated yesterday from tomorrow. This is to say when on Tuesday we speak of Monday we call it yesterday and on Monday when we speak of Tuesday we call it tomorrow. Therefore when we are at midnight, we are between "Yesterday and Tomorrow."

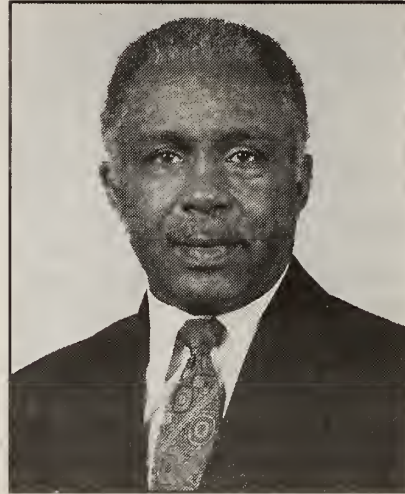
It is good to remember our yesterdays, for they give directions for tomorrow. George Bernard Shaw said that "We are made wise not by the recollections of our past, but by the responsibilities of our future." While we find ourselves

in the great divide of time — 2001 and 2002 — between last year and this year, we acknowledge the future for which we must prepare and be prepared.

A writer for *The Biblical Illustrator* commentary speaks of times in three divisions, the past, the present and the future. He says that "The past in time presents itself to us as the fountain and origin out of which the present is forever being born, and out of which the future is forever destined to proceed. The present, in which we have our being, is forever departing from us, in order to return into the bosom of that past out of which it came, and in which it dwells. The future comes to us forever, sent by the departed present, and coming when it comes, in the name of the present. Our only existence is forever dependent upon our standing-place in the present. It is our communion, or participation of the present, that enables us to look back, and to remember the past out of which we have come. It is by virtue of our standing on the rock of the present, that we can look forward to the future which it is about to send to us."

We are caught in the midst of two focal points of time "Yesterday and Tomorrow." We will not worship yesterday, but build on it. We will not criticize the place in which we stand, but live in it. We will not fear tomorrow, but believe in it.

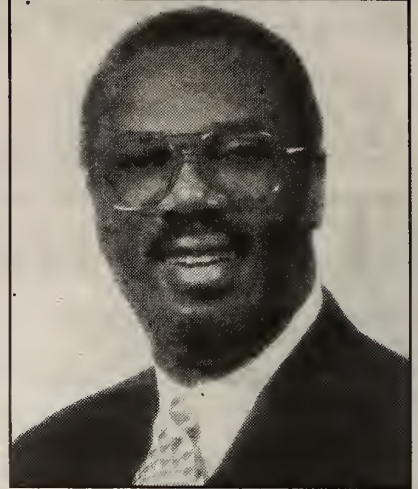
Between "Yesterday and Tomorrow," is the now, the time between the beginning and the



Dr. Charles T. Bullock

end. What are we going to do with the now? I would suggest that we continue to completion the projects that are already in progress and enhance the teaching ministry of our convention utilizing state of the art strategies and technology on the local, state, and collegiate levels at Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School. This involves the Internet, on-line course and the World Wide Web. I believe Jesus expects us to engage the present and use our God-given resources and talents in the now to His glory and to help His people here and everywhere.

Have a Happy and Blessed New Year!



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

Thank You

Dr. John D. Fuller
President,
General Baptist State Convention
Lewis Chapel Baptist Church
5422 Raeford Road
Fayetteville, NC 28304-3063
Dear Dr. Fuller:

Thank you for your hospitality and generosity given to us during our visit to Asheville, North Carolina. Your message was encouraging, uplifting and inspiring.

As Chairman of the Home Mission for the Empire Missionary Baptist Convention of New York, I would like to thank you for your generous gift of \$15,000 to help in the World Trade Center Relief Fund.

May God's blessings be upon you and the members of your great convention.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Booker T. Sears Jr. D.D.

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, M.Div.

Holidays Celebrate Swift Succession

Peace be to you all, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. This is the season when the world celebrates Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year in swift succession. Special attention is given to performing acts of compassion and embracing the angelic praise of "peace on earth among those whom (God) favors" {NRSV}. Wouldn't it be nice if the hearts and minds of humankind were mobilized and energized to possess this mindset throughout the year?!

The world now stands in between the time when the Lord came into the world and the time when He will come again. The Lord's appearing here on that night in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago provided a look at a policy that often plagues our world — a policy of "no room." The savior of the world was born in an area usually set aside for the animals. There was no room for his family in that crowded town filled with people who had complied with Caesar Augustus' decree that all inhabitants of Rome's empire be registered.

This "no room" policy continued when King Herod received word that the Mes-

siah had been born in Bethlehem. Herod sent his soldiers to kill all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under. Herod had a "no room" policy — he would not tolerate any sharing of his throne.

Jesus often found Himself at odds with the political and religious leaders because of His passion for God and compassion for people. He placed human needs above tradition. He crossed lines and broke down barriers that alienated people because of their race, sex, status, and religion. He advocated the inclusion of all persons. As a result, Jesus was targeted for crucifixion because the political and religious leaders had a "no room" policy — they would not tolerate any one defying their custom of putting and keeping people "in their place."

Our world has a history of having a "no room" policy. Racism and sexism are twin cousins of evil that seek to oppress others simply because of their skin color or gender. Whole segments of our population are often abandoned and/or isolated based upon their race, gender, economic status, creed, or religious/political beliefs.

When Jesus comes again, will the "no room" policy still be in effect? When Jesus comes again, will this policy that faced Him when He was born as a child face Him as He returns as King?

Many have not made room for others because they have not made room for Christ in their life. Except for a few "program guarded" minutes...on Sunday and maybe during mid-week, there is a "no room" policy in effect today. Liston Pope noted in the 1960's that 11 a.m. on Sunday morning was the most segregated hour in American society. In the year 2001, not much has changed.

This season challenges us to lift the veil and tear down the walls that keep a "no room" policy in place. We must make room for the least, the lost, the lonely, the left out, the kept out, the locked out, and the knocked out. We must make room for the frail, the fragile, and the forgotten. We must make room for the distressed, the depressed, and the oppressed. We must make room for the hapless, the helpless, the hopeless, and the homeless. If we do not strive to make room for those who are God's beautiful creatures, should we be surprised if God meets us at the gates of the Eternal City



Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, M.Div.

and declares: "There is no room for you?!"

Beloved, let us make room throughout the year to support our Central Children's Home in Oxford, N.C. Your time, talents, treasures, and prayers are encouraged and welcomed. Please contact Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director at (919) 693-7617. He and his hardworking staff will gladly come to your area and share the opportunities for enhancing your involvement with the Central Children's Home. You may also contact me:

Rev. Nilous M. Avery II
(704) 637-0954 — church
(704) 637-1137 — fax

E-mail — AveryRevKin@aol.com

Please make room for Christ through the Central Children's Home in your budgets, schedules, worship services, thoughts, and prayers. The grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. To God be the glory! Amen!

Women's Page Highlights

Reaching The Masses: Transforming The Family

By

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

How blessed are we to have shared another Christmas and yet another year in His mission! How grateful we to God who supported the missionary endeavor during last year! How blessed are we to begin another year with the Spirit of Christ in making and nurturing disciples!

Our 2001-02 year's theme is "Reaching The Masses: Transforming The Family Through Christian Communication" — scriptures Deuteronomy 6:6-7, Proverbs 21:23; James 1:26; 1 Peter 1:14-15. Basically our books for study this year are **Getting Acquainted With The Bible** for Seniors and Young Adults; **The Bondage Breaker** for youth, ages 12-20; **Thank You Jesus** for youth, ages 9-11; **A Sunrise In Disguise** for youth, ages 6-8; **The Teachings of Jesus** for youth, ages 1-5. The theme reminds us, though we are in a new fiscal year, our mission still remains to reach the masses for Christ. In keeping with our motto: "Christ In Every Home," what better way can we reach the masses than through the family by helping it to use Christian communication? It is getting acquainted with the Bible that our family

learns the Word for and uses the Word in communication. **Getting Acquainted With The Bible** gives an overview of the Bible, shows how the Bible was created, presents the message's relevance for the 21st century citizens. It can serve as a brief commentary for those beginning some in-depth study of the Bible. This book can lead the family to books of the Bible which in particular relate to the word one speaks and its effect upon the family for abundant life or impoverished life.

The Word or words one speaks can be **The Bondage Breaker** or bondage empower, for power is in the tongue to give life or death. This book leads youth to discover that the Word has a message for teenage experiences. It helps them discover the truth which can and will set them free and stand against the spiritual forces of this world.

Certainly when Christ sets one free from bondage, one can say, "**Thank You Jesus.**" This book also helps youth discover how God through the Word gives answers to problems they face. This book helps youth discover who Jesus is.

A Surprise In Disguise relates two men traveling, when a third man joins them on

their journey. As they talk with Him, they discover He knows many a thing that brings wisdom, knowledge, and inspiration to their lives. They learn as they continue to talk to Him that He's Jesus. Is Jesus known or disguised in our family arenas by the lives we live?

In **The Teaching of Jesus** are pictures to color for the youngest youth. Each picture, however, is presented by a scriptural concept that tells a story concerning the ministry of Jesus.

So it is that **The Messenger/The Message** is Jesus who is essential for reaching the masses. Are not all the masses related to some family or "family" in some way or another? How important is Christian communication to our survival, to our winning souls for Christ! Reaching the masses through the family will give many thousands of "tongues" to sing (tell) the praises of our Savior and Lord, regardless in what life station they find themselves.

O For A Thousand Tongues

O for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace.
My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad, The honors of Thy name.
Jesus! the name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.
He breaks the power of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free:
His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood availed for me.

—Charles Wesley

HAPPY NEW YEAR

FOR INFORMATION:

1. **One-Day Session** for all departments



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

will convene at the Raleigh Civic Center on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2002. Sessions begin at 9 a.m.

2. **Committees** who desire to meet may meet Saturday, Jan. 12, 2002, from 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. in the arena.

3. **Calendar:** Please notice the calendar of events for 2002. You may desire to order a GBSC calendar booklet (\$6) that contains conventional and related organizational dates. You may secure this booklet from the office of the Woman's Convention or GBSC.

4. **Budget:** Quotas have been sent to churches to help realize the missions budget. If churches (circles) have not received a quota, please write the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of WBH&FMC immediately. **Our 2001-02 Budget (\$801,357.00)** includes: **Shaw University — \$49,500.00; Shaw Divinity — \$33,500.00; Foreign Missions — \$80,200.00; Central Children's Home — \$36,500.00; Baptist Assembly — \$40,500.00; and State Missions — \$561,157.00.**

5. **Website:** please visit our website at www.wbh-fmc.org.

6. **Youth Bible Camp:** Persons who would like to be considered for counselors or junior counselors for the upcoming camp season may contact the office of the Woman's Convention for an application.

7. **WBH&FMC Nehemiah Prayer Chain:** Please see the announcement regarding the Prayer Chain and participate.

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC • 2002 CALENDAR

JANUARY

(Prayer Month for STATE MISSIONS)

12 One Day Session, Raleigh Civic Center

FEBRUARY

(Prayer Month for NATIONAL MISSIONS)

MARCH

31 Easter

APRIL

6 Statewide Leaders' Workshop, Raleigh Civic Center

MAY

4 Ministers' Wives and Widows Spring Retreat

JUNE

1 Young Adults' Retreat

3-7 Leadership Training Conference, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

9-14 First Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

16-21 Second Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

22 Missions Prayer Day (County Unions, et. al.)

23-28 Third Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JULY

28-Aug. 1 Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Winston-Salem

AUGUST

(Prayer month for THE FAMILY)

24-31 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention, New Orleans, La.

SEPTEMBER

2-6 National Baptist Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.

28 Family Missions Conference, First Baptist, Oxford

OCTOBER (Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)

12 WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

2 Youth Evangelism Conference, Halifax County Union, Host

4 World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)

15 Shaw University Founder's Day Convocation

15-17 Ministers' Wives and Widows Fall Retreat

28 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 Christmas Day

THE NEHEMIAH PRAYER CHAIN

of the

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention
of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, Inc.

Initiated at the Leadership Training Conference

J.J. Baptist Assembly, June 10, 1999

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

"Every time I feel the Spirit, I'll Pray"

Participating Counties

Anson, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Durham, Hertford, Hoke, Iredell, Jones, Mecklenburg, Onslow, Orange, Scotland, Stanley, Union and Vance.

Each county should have prayer warriors committed to the chain that pray every time the Spirit says pray for our families, Woman's Convention, churches and our youth.

Designated times to pray:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 12 noon
and any other time that the Spirit says so.

Scriptures

Acts 12:5, James 4:21, 1 John 5:14-15, Ephesians 6:18, John 3:22, Luke 18:1, James 5:16, John 14:13-14, Acts 1:14; 2:1-4, 41-42

The Prayer Warriors Chain encourages any persons who desire to become a link in the chain to do so anytime you care to.

We all need to stay prayed up!

Jesus might come anytime!

Mrs. Robbie Diggs, chairperson
Mrs. Colene Stanley, co-chairperson

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Study Commission Meeting Held

By Romas L. Hales

The State Laymen's League held its final Study Commission meeting of the calendar year on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2001.

The meeting was held at the Community Baptist Church in Durham, N.C., where the Rev. Percy Chase serves as pastor. It was a joy to see approximately 200 men and boys in attendance.

There was an Executive Committee meeting at 9 a.m. conducted by President Jarvis Morgan. The regular session was called to order at 10 a.m. with first vice president John Gladden presiding. We had the welcome by one of the host Laymen Deacon Theodore Speight. Greetings were given by President Jarvis Morgan and the host Pastor Rev. Percy Chase. Music was by the Male Chorus of the Community Baptist Church.

Brother Theodore David conducted the Christian Education Session. He conducted his discussion on the topic "Knowing and Carrying Out the Will of God." He used the scripture Matthew 1:18-25 about the

birth of Jesus. He discussed how God's work is going to get done. During his discussion he had two questions for the laymen.

(1) Do you know the will of God for your life?

(2) Have you committed yourself to fulfill the will of God for your life? In his discussion he emphasized how God must be and is going to be glorified.

Brother Dallas Foster, Study Commission Chairman, conducted the Study Commission Workshop. Brother Foster conducted the workshop on the topic "How To Pray." This topic was discussed in a previous session but since there were several requests to conduct another workshop on "How To Pray" Brother Foster decided to honor the requests.

He pointed out how America is being threatened from within. How will we find the faith and the strength to endure the current of these trouble times? The answer is prayer. Several topics were outlined and discussed.

Some of these topics were:

The Shortfalls of a Prayerless Life

Prayer As a Unique Blessing

Real Prayer Defined

A Perfect Model to Emulate

Jesus Prayed

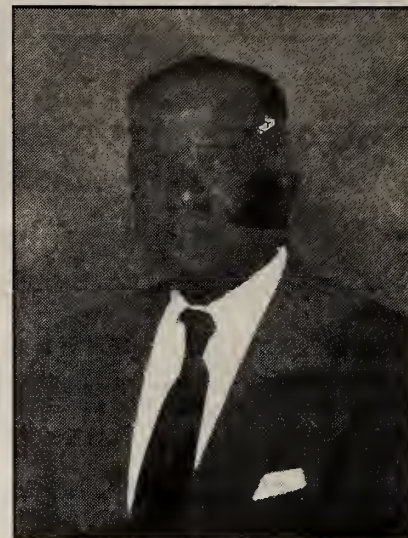
The Necessity of Prayer in Our Lives

Making Prayer a Priority

Brother Foster gave a list of statements and supporting scripture on the two topics of "Why Pray" and "How to Pray." The session was good and generated a lot of discussion.

Brother Henry Holbrook was in charge of the youth session. We were pleased to have had a large number of youth from across the state in attendance. Thanks to the men that volunteer to help conduct the youth sessions.

President Morgan conducted a business session following the workshops. The business session consisted of general reports from the president, the youth, and the laymen field worker. The president reported on the calendar project for 2002, the budget of \$50,000 and how each church and association is being asked for an assessment



Romas Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

of \$400 for the year.

A thanks to Rev. Chase, the laymen's league and members of the Community Baptist Church for hosting the meeting and the wonderful meal. They donated the funds received for the lunch to the General Baptist State Convention Laymen's League. Thank you very much.

The next Study Commission meeting will be held on March 9, 2002, at the First Baptist Church in Raleigh. Please make plans to attend.

May God continue to bless you.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

By Romas L. Hales

On behalf of the State Laymen's League of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated, we wish to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy New Year. Not only do we wish you a Happy New Year, but we thank you for the service you have rendered, the work you have done, your prayers, and your cooperation during the past year. Let us also pause and count our blessings.

May we thank God for all His blessings the past year. So often we concentrate on so call large things and problems and the negativism of life and forget the major things we have been blessed with. Think of the things God has blessed us with, and the things He has done for us that we were unable to do for ourselves. Think of the times the past year He has solved problems for us that we were unable to solve. Think of the times He has let what we thought were problems and obstacles in our lives be stepping stones, kingdom builders and strength for a greater tomorrow.

Through the Laymen's League, men and boys can develop the discipline of bible study and prayer, also they can experience the joy of being part of a caring group of believers. The Laymen's League can help members develop skills in worshipping, witnessing, ministering, and growing to maturity in Christ. In the Laymen's League, men and boys can learn what makes their way of life different from the way of the world. The Laymen's League strives to equip its members to respond in a Chris-

tian way to the problems and the pressures they face each day. Laymen are called to use their gifts to contribute to the work of the church. All Laymen deserve the chance to develop as disciples and to grow to spiritual maturity.

Laymen, this year let us study God's word carefully and consistently. "Try hard to show yourself worthy of God's approval, as a labourer who need not be ashamed; be straightforward in your proclamation of the truth." (2 Timothy 2:15). Let us be willing to do whatever is necessary to be an effective laymen and leader. In everything let us set an example by doing good.

As we make plans for the New Year, let us try to make sure our plans are God's plans for our lives. While we think and plan for the financial goals we want to reach, the material things we want to purchase and for the things we want to do for our families, friends and love ones, let us put the things we want to do for the Lord at the head of the list. Remember what the Psalmist David said in the 103rd Psalm: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me; bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that is within me; bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits; Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle."

THE HANDBOOK for Pastor's and Minister's WivesBy A.P. Wyfe

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Have a Happy and Spirit-filled New Year!

ELECTION NEWS

Rev. Nilous M. Avery II Announces Candidacy For 2nd Vice-President of the GBSC, N.C., Inc.



Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

To my brothers and sisters in the General Baptist "tie" that binds our hearts in Christian love: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4, NIV).

With this powerful challenge and assurance as a foundation, I humbly and prayerfully announce that I am a candidate for the office of 2nd Vice-President of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. I come before you as one who is the least among you and do not even deserve to be all that I am. "But by the Grace of God, I am what I am..." (1 Corinthians 15:10a).

Words are not adequate to express the humility and gratitude I have for such a time as this. Words are also inadequate to express the profound love I cherish for the relationship, fellowship, friendship, and kinship that I share with each of you in Christ Jesus. In the past, you have allowed the mantle of ministry and leadership to be placed upon me with a deep and sincere trust. I have sought to be faithful in all of this. By the power, presence, and provision of God's abundant grace, I pledge to continue to uphold the charge to keep that I have under the blood-stained banner of the risen Christ.

Please allow me to briefly share with you three points: *Voyage, Vision, & Victory*. First, my *Voyage* has been one that was and is ordained by God who knew me before I was formed and set me apart before I was born. I am the oldest of four children born to Rev. Dr. N.M. Avery and Mrs. Christine Watson Avery. I am a native of Asheville, N.C. and a son of the Hill Street Baptist Church as well as the Mud Creek Association. I matriculated at Shaw University, Western Carolina University, and Shaw Divinity School. Presently, I serve as Pastor of

the historic Mount Zion Baptist Church in Salisbury, N.C. where the Lord has blessed us with nine years of fruitful ministry.

Currently, our stewardship involves **A Passion for God and Compassion for People** through service on: numerous local, regional, and national religious and civic boards; the Rowan Association; the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; and the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. I am a lifelong member of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. God has blessed me to serve in varied areas of ministry in our great Convention:

- Participant in the summer youth camps (formerly held at Shaw University)
- The Executive Committee and the General Board
- The Evangelism Committee
- The Program Committee
- The Committee for Higher Learning
- The Election Committee
- 4th Vice-President of the GBSC, N.C., Inc.

Second, my *Vision* for ministry through our Convention is anchored in several convictions. We must be *United in Christ, Propelled by Hope, and Equipped for Ministry*. We must have *A Passion for God and Compassion for People*. As your 2nd Vice President, I will "assist the President in the operation of the Convention, and shall perform all other duties {regarding} this office," and "shall chair the Committee for the Department of Foreign Missions" (Article V, Section 6, Item #4). This involves promoting and supporting the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, the Foreign Mission Bureau, Overseas Adoption Plan, C.A.R.E., C.O.R.E., and other foreign mission programs. My goal is to encourage and challenge all members of our Convention to support foreign missions through: *Participation, Cultivation, Elevation, and Multiplication*. I will expand and

expound upon these principles in the coming days and months.

Finally, our *Victory* is affirmed at Calvary and an empty tomb. We must never stray from that which is our power source: the love of God manifested in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We must advance the gospel, celebrate the ordinances, and send out missionaries (Acts 13:1-4). In the words of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: "My food is to do what God wants! God is the one who sent me and I must finish the work God gave me to do...Open your eyes and look at the field! They are ripe for harvest." (John 4:34, 35b, paraphrased).

Please continue to support the work God gave us to do through the Convention in your prayers and total stewardship. Pray for all of our officers, auxiliaries, and the candidates in the upcoming election. May the Spirit of the Lord fall fresh on us as we

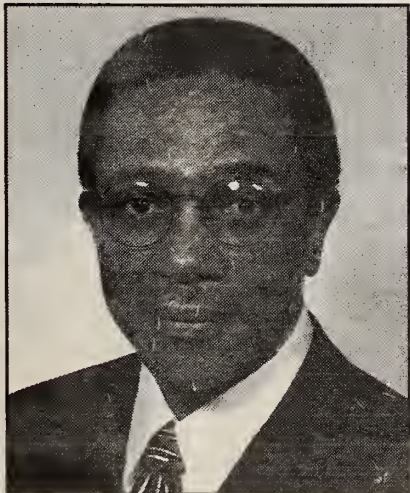
strive to be all that God created us to be. I look forward to meeting and sharing with all of you in the near future.

I issue a call to my Christian brothers and sisters who have declared or may declare their candidacy in the Convention: **"BE ON YOUR GUARD; STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH, BE {PEOPLE} OF COURAGE; BE STRONG. DO EVERYTHING IN LOVE"** (1 CORINTHIANS 16:13-14, NIV). TO GOD BE ALL GLORY, HONOR, AND PRAISE! AMEN!

Announcement of Candidacy For the Office of Vice President at Large, GBSC of N.C., Inc.

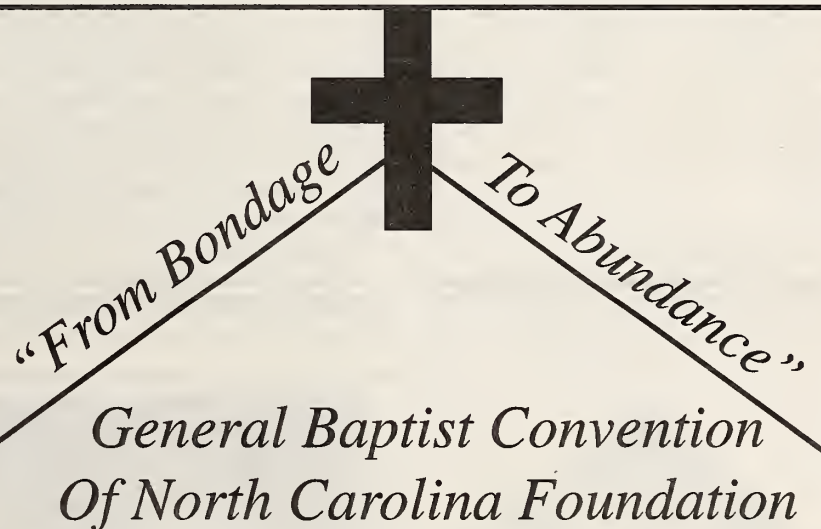
I am hereby announcing my candidacy for the office of Vice President At Large of our great Convention for the 2002 election to be held during the 135th Annual Session. My experience as a Missionary Baptist pastor for 28 years, plus my experience as an officer and a leader in the General Baptist State Convention (having served as Assistant Recording Secretary, Recording Secretary, Third Vice President, Second Vice President, First Vice President, General Board and Executive Committee, among others), have helped to uniquely qualify me for this office.

I humbly request the prayers and support of the General Baptist State Convention family in this endeavor. If elected, I pledge to uphold the Constitution of this Convention. Furthermore, as constitutionally mandated, I pledge to (1) preside over the deliberations of the Convention in the absence of the President, or at the request of the President, and (2) assist the Presi-



Dr. J.H. Grant

dent in the carrying out of the work of the Convention and preside over the General Board.



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THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN HAS A GOAL OF RAISING 3 MILLION DOLLARS IN 30 MONTHS TO CREATE AN ENDOWMENT, WHICH WILL ASSIST IN FUNDING THE EXPANSION OF THE PROGRAMS OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF N.C., INC.

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Programs for the Individual?

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A Clarion Plea For The Children of Christmas

By Dr. Simon A. Burney, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Resource Development

Please Donate a Toy for a Child and Non-Perishable foods for a family today!

During the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays many impoverished American families and children are severely impacted due to the lack of food to eat and toys for children to play with during the holidays. During this special time of the year, many poor families that were dislocated by hurricane Floyd will not have a Christmas to enjoy or to remember. Believe it or not, there are still so many families that are currently displaced by hurricane Floyd. It was recently reported that Edgecombe (consisting of Princeville, Tarboro, and part of Rocky Mount, NC) county has only completed 25% of their community development and recovery program.

Friends Helping Friends Outreach Center, in partnership with the General Baptist State Convention is seeking your generous donations and non-perishable food items (*can goods*) to assist families and children of Edgecombe and Nash counties. You may kindly send your donations of support to the General Baptist State Convention in C/O Operation Friends Helping Friends.

Since November of 1999, Operation Friends Helping Friends Outreach Center has been serving five FEMA mobile home campsite communities of Nash and Edgecombe counties, just after hurricane

Floyd devastated Eastern North Carolina. The mission of Friends Helping Friends Outreach center is to support families in their healthy development and growth within the community.

To date, the outreach center has hundreds of families with therapeutic counseling, community resource referrals, food distribution, clothing, rental assistance, utility assistance, propane gas for heating mobile campers, and house furniture. The organization has sponsored many youth and teen educational enrichment workshops, recreational trips, provided family resource support services, and employment resource referrals.

It seems very apparent that many people are simply tired of hearing about the families impacted by Hurricane Floyd. Some have stated that the people should go back to their homes, because there has been more than enough time and moneys released for assistance. Other persons not effected by the flood have said that some people are still taking advantage of the system. However, the truth of the matter is that most people have no idea of what so many families have been going through or the bureaucratic red tape that they have to deal with, or the credit qualification hassles that bar them from qualifying for affordable single family homes.

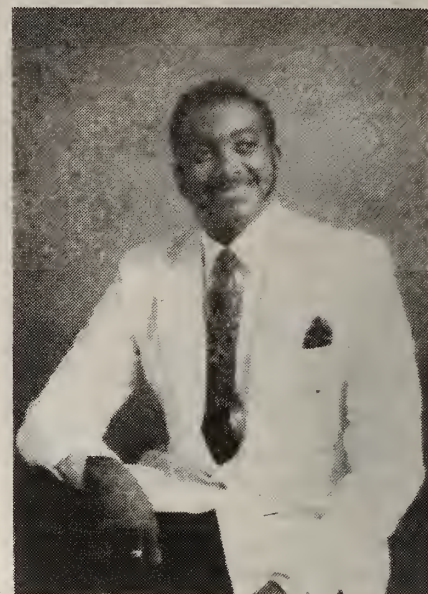
There is no way for anyone to really know what the flood survivors true pain and feelings are, unless you have lost everything

yourself in the flood, and have to start rebuilding your life over again with nothing. There are still so many families trying very hard to move into suitable housing and re-establish an environment of stability for their lives and children.

There are still hundreds of people who formerly lived in public or government housing, of which construction will not be completed for another two or three years. This simply means that many senior citizens, single parents, and low-income families will be waiting for affordable housing for the duration of yet another three years. For many people, there is no other choice. They cannot afford anything else. There are yet, still many homeowners seeking financial assistance for repairs, while others are still waiting on *buy out funds* to purchase new homes.

The GBSC Housing Committee has done a great job, Yet much more still needs to be done

There are also many families that are moving out of temp housing and living with other family members just to have some type of stability for their school age children. After waiting for two years to find a home to rent, some families still have to wait yet several more years before they can find or move into suitable and affordable housing. The Friends Helping Friends Outreach Center continue to receive many calls for home furniture, household items and appliances, transportation assistance, and the list goes on because the needs and the



Dr. Simon A. Burney

community resources, In-kind donations and financial contributions of assistance are so very limited.

Will You Prayerfully Respond To This Plea for the Children

If you have a heart for missions, and would like to serve a needy child and family, please call now: Friends Helping Friends Outreach Center at (252) 266-2953 or you may call the General Baptist State Convention at 1-800-639-4272. You may send all checks or donated items of support for Operation Friends Helping Friends Holiday Food & Toy Drive, to **Friends Helping Friends Outreach Center, Inc. at P.O. Box 1985, 341 Raleigh Road, Rocky Mount, NC 27802.**

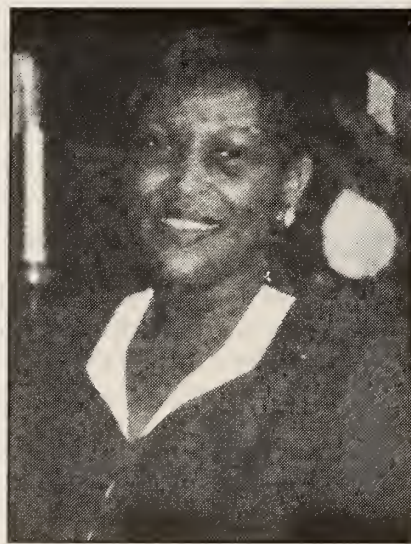
The Friends Helping Friends organization would like you to know that your prayers, In-kind donations of assistance, and financial contributions of support, is greatly appreciated.



New Year's Resolutions

As we are entering into the New Year some of us are making new year's resolutions. Some will say we're so fat, some will say we're too skinny and some of us will even say we are going to be nicer. We will go on diets, even young people, and eat more to get bigger. We will even be nicer for a month or two. The most important thing for us to do is to do what's right. If we are so fat, we need to F — fast and pray, A — acknowledge God in all our ways, and T — trust in the Lord with all our heart. If we are too skinny, try S — speaking kind words, K — knowing Him better, I — inheriting the Kingdom, N — new mercies every morning, N — nourish in words of faith and Y — yielding ourselves to the Lord.

All of us should live together in peace. Try to understand each other. Love each other as brothers do. Be kind and humble. Don't be mean to a person to pay him back for being mean to you. And do not insult someone to pay him back for insulting you. Instead, ask God to bless that



Delores Griffey

person. That is doing what's right.

Always be ready to tell Jesus and his goodness to anyone who asks. Answer them in a gentle way with respect. Do things that are right and pleasing in the sight of God. Then, anyone who says bad things about your good life in Christ will be ashamed of what they said. It is better to suffer for doing well than wrong. Do what's right. I Peter 3:8-17.

Micah 6:8 states, "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

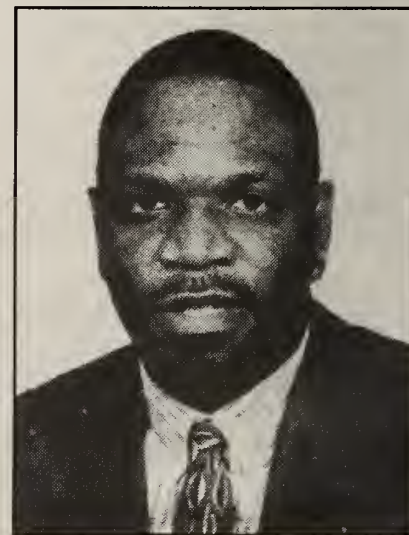
Matthew 22:36-40 tells us about the greatest commandment in the law. Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with your entire mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the law and the prophets hang on these two commandments."

Do what's right!



Submitted by
Dr. H.C. Miller
Chairman of Evangelism

A Real To Do Better



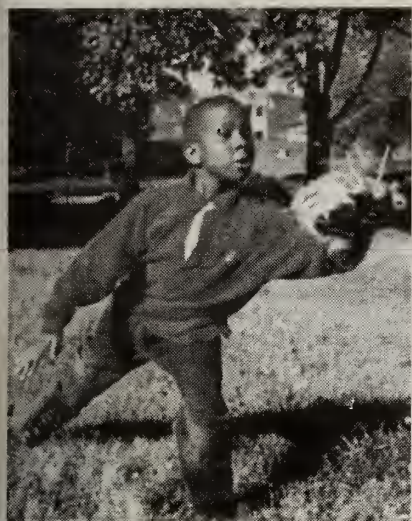
Dr. H.C. Miller

Grace and peace to our great Convention family.

Our God did great and powerful things for us and through us in the year 2001; and for that we do give Him praise. This new year approaches us with a chance for a fresh start in the areas of our lives that were not up to par last year. The only requirement in beginning this fresh year is to do so now. If we fail to start the needed change this year, we will end this new year like we did the old one. The Book of II Corinthians 5:19 reads "for the Love of God constraineth us." Here the apostle Paul answers questions of why we must attempt to improve on our past record. Why do we press on when times are hard, because the love of God constrains us. Why do we try to continue to please God when society makes it so easy and acceptable to do otherwise. The Love

of God constrains us. Why do we place so much importance in a well rounded church life with sound doctrinal preaching, when we are constantly told that church is unnecessary. Because the Love of God constrains us. We cannot help but feel immeasurable love towards Him when we see what He is doing and has done for us. And especially when we understand why He has done it. God became humanity; came to us; suffered at our hands; then died for us. And to think he did it all for us because He loved us. It's no wonder we feel compelled to do that which is good in the sight of God. The Love of God constrains us. If you do not, by some absence of conscience, feel a compulsion to righteousness and Godliness, perhaps you need to rekindle your awareness for what God has done for you. If you do, the Love of God will constrain you through the rest of your life.

UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



COREY

Birthday: April 27, 1990

Introducing Corey, Herlone and Deontre:

Corey, Herlone and Deontre are pleasant, friendly boys. Corey, being the oldest, is more serious and feels protective of the younger boys.

Herlone has a great heart and likes to please others.

Deontre is the "baby" and still likes to be cuddled.

A Closer Look at Corey:

Corey is attractive and energetic. He loves all sports, but especially basketball and in-line skating. Corey is somewhat quiet and cautious when meeting new people, but once he is comfortable, he relaxes and will show his affection with hugs. His foster family says Corey is, "an intelligent, passionate child who likes challenges, responds to praise and cares deeply for his brothers." He is very bright and has won an award for his excellent reading skills. Corey does best with redirection, as demonstrated at his daycare when he got in trouble with some unsuitable kids. His daycare teacher appointed Corey to be "teacher's helper," which he really likes.



HERLONE

Birthday: April 16, 1991

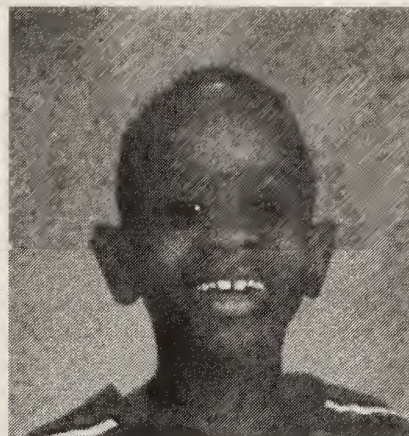
Corey attends counseling to help him deal with his feelings and the uncertainty of his future.

A Closer Look at Herlone:

Herlone is a friendly, engaging boy with a pleasant personality and a desire to please those around him. He takes great pride in his appearance and likes to dress well and look nice. Herlone is a very clean-cut young man with good manners, good personal hygiene and an appreciation for what is done for him. He likes to ride his bike and play sports like soccer, football, basketball and baseball. Herlone also enjoys playing with friends, skating, painting and drawing. In school, Herlone receives daily resource assistance in his exceptional children's program. He attends counseling to help him deal with his feelings and his low self-esteem. Herlone needs to remember to always tell the truth, even if he knows it will get him into trouble.

A Closer Look at Deontre:

Deontre is a pleasant, friendly and happy little boy who loves attention and affection. Although small for his age, Deontre has big dreams and goals. He is talkative and smiles most of the time. Deontre is



DEONTRE

Birthday: December 19, 1992

quite playful and has a vivid imagination. He enjoys play acting, riding his bike and playing outdoors. He also enjoys drawing, coloring and watching TV. Deontre is at the top of his class in reading and spelling. Like Corey, Deontre has also won an award for his excellent reading skills. Deontre responds well to praise and encouragement. He likes a challenge, but being the youngest, he is more a follower than a leader.

A Family for Corey, Herlone and Deontre:

Although these pleasant brothers do not currently live in the same home, they visit each other often and hope to find a loving, permanent family that will want and accept them all. However, their caseworker will consider other options, if necessary. Corey, Herlone and Deontre are three nice boys who need a loving home with lots of structure, consistency, praise and encouragement. (NC #036-374) (NC #036-376) (NC #036-375)

WANTED!!

- ADOPTED PARENT
- FOSTER CARE PARENT
- VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES URGENT!

Please contact:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or
Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh,
NC 27610 • 919-231-9774; Fax
919-212-3656; or e-mail:
joepaigesr@aol.com or
dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr.
Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610
919-231-9774 • E-mail:
joepaigesr@aol.com

SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. & THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Making A Difference in the Life of a Child

Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAYKEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

☐ I am interested in being an adoptive parent. ☐ I'd like to be a county volunteer.

☐ I am interested in being a foster care parent.

☐ I'd like to be a church volunteer. ☐ Other (please specify)

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

City

State

Zip

County: _____

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610,
919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).

2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)

3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.
Dr. Dorothy A. Demby Paige
 Again, we greet you in The Blessed Name
 of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

We experienced in December a continuation of the spirit generated during our various National Adoption Awareness Month Celebrations. We want to thank our moderators, pastors, clergy, missionary and laity for their continuing support — above and beyond the call of duty. So many people have called us expressing an interest to assist as a result of our continuing presentations throughout the State, our monthly spreads in the **Baptist Informer** and **The Carolinian** (a twice-weekly newspaper).

The National Adoption Awareness Month in November gave us a big boost. The month was one of celebration and praise, a time to take a serious look at the plight of our children — those in the North Carolina Foster Care System, and children in need of families and homes, nationwide — and make a special resolve to join with others in helping to make a positive difference in their lives.

People are still quoting from Governor Michael F. Easley's PROCLAMATION. Some requested copies, and the 500 copies that I made have now been given out. The Governor's PROCLAMATION was a topic of discussion at BTU's, meetings of couples and singles, ministries, and other church laity.

Ms. Sonja Barnes represented Governor Easley. Courtney Crowder represented Congressman Bob Etheridge, and Dr. James T. Roberson Jr. represented the faith communities.

SECRETARY CARMEN HOOKER BUELL

As we reported in the December 2001 issue, The Honorable Carmen Hooker Buell, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services was the Keynote Speaker. This was a major plus for our Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. Secretary Hooker Buell is always a hit with audiences around the state — personable, knowledgeable, and

dedicated. As one observer stated, "our Carmen is just good to be around...easy to relate to."

And, as I have stated in previous issues, the Secretary is one of my favorite people! In her remarks, Secretary Hooker Buell outlined the needs for more and faster placement of children with adoptive parents, and challenged all to join the campaign to help find loving, caring and nurturing adoptive homes.

Like former Governor Jim Hunt and Governor Easley, Secretary Hooker Buell is very supportive and encouraging of faith-based and community-based initiatives, in partnership with the State and other public and private sectors, working together to help resolve social problems and improve the quality of life for all. What impressed all of us, beyond her speech, is that although the Secretary had an especially crowded schedule on November 1, she participated in our celebration and remained at the Celebration on the State Capitol grounds with us, and mingled with and encouraged the participants. And, as I always say, I am probably a bit biased, but I personally consider the Secretary to be among the greatest of Governor Easley's appointments. She had the unique knack of fitting in, of being at home, with North Carolinians, generally — beyond race, religion and other forms of pettiness.

A TIME FOR PARTNERING AND TOGETHERNESS

In his proclamation, Governor Easley stated that adoption was the plan for 3,100 children in North Carolina at this time, and that approximately 900 are ready to be placed in permanent homes.

The governor emphasized in his proclamation that during the month of November, County Departments of Social Services, private adoption agencies, the faith community and advocacy groups will participate in a statewide public awareness campaign, adding that "this collaborative effort will focus greater attention on children who need permanent adoptive

families and honor the families who have adopted."

The governor stated that "Adoption continues to be an important option for families in North Carolina." I concur wholly with Governor Easley and pray that the citizens of our great state, especially the faith communities, will make a special commitment to help make a positive difference for children.

I have repeated the above quotes purposely. I am pleased to report that we have received more supportive e-mails and phone calls expressing and thanking the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Inc., for its continuing support of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry.

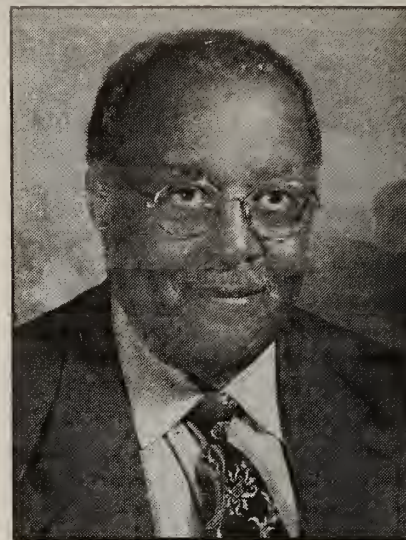
I also want the Governor to know the gratitude of the faith communities for his reaching out, personally and through staff, in effort to promote collaborative partnering between state agencies and the faith communities.

OUR MANDATE

I find it helpful to repeat our program mandates in each issue of **The Baptist Informer**.

Our mandate is two-fold:

1. To identify African-American singles and couples who are interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American Children already in the Foster Care System of North Carolina Division of Social Services (NC-DSS).
2. To advocate, motivate and stimulate interest among African-American singles and couples of the various faith communities in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of the North Carolina Division of Social Services.



Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

The GBSC Adoptive and Foster Care Ministry and our Outreach arm, **THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE**, are the major adoption and foster care faith communities' advocates in our state. We are convinced that our efforts have made and continue to make positive differences in the attitudes of the faith communities and their members toward adoption and foster care, in particular, and toward the State and County Departments of Social Services in general. Ours is a unified effort. **Together, we are making a difference.**

GOD IS STILL BLESSING OUR MINISTRY

In terms of recruitment and adoption/foster care advocacy, December was again encouraging. And, as I repeatedly say each

(Continued on next page)

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
 - Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
 - Have a stable home and income
 - Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
 - Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina
- You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.

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Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Wealth Creation Consultant
 Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, Wealth Creation Consultant
 Executive Directors and Co-Founders

1-800-358-0067 (PIN# 5832)

Phone/Fax (919) 231-9774

E-Mail: jpaige@maxxrep.com or dottiedem@maxxconnect.net

Make a decision to change your life NOW!

PLEASE CONTACT US. WE WILL RETURN YOUR CALL!

MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

month, if this outpouring of interest continues, and there is every indication to believe that it will, we will have another banner year in terms of outreach and the recruitment of potential African-American adoptive and/or foster parents. Ministers, and laity are helping us spread the work among the various faith communities that "every child is special to God" and that "every child deserves a loving and caring home." We give God the glory.

We were encouraged by our attendance and participation in the **Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., held at the Hill Street Baptist Church, Asheville, North Carolina.** I want to thank the Convention planners for providing for our program participation, and the Moderator of Moderators for allowing me to make a special appeal at their special session.

Again, we say "thanks" to people like you from all over the state for helping us spread the news. The word is now out. **The belief that every child deserves a loving, caring, and nurturing home is widespread.** And people, overall, in all walks of life, seem to agree that our Ministry is a worthy cause deserving broadly based support at every level.

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative, influenced after the successful Virginia pioneering effort, continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities, and again, we give God the glory and the praise. We will continue to push this initiative, statewide.

We are grossly encouraged and buoyed by the expressions of support by collaborating faith communities across denominational lines, and by community organizations.

EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE is a highly successful interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches that are uniting for children. This **HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY** is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary de-

partments have accepted this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2001, in addition to other on-going ministry priorities.

For assistance, please call, write or e-mail me: Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; Phone: (919) 231-9774; Fax: (919) 212-3656; E-mail: adoption_children@yahoo.com or dr.jc.paige@adopt-children.org.

PARTNERING WITH FAITH COMMUNITIES

Our outreach arm, **The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care**, an initiative of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, deserves both praise and thanks. Both ministers and laity, women and men, are actively spreading the word that children need love, that they need a nurturing and caring home environment.

This interfaith, interdenominational body, inspired by God and directed by the Heavenly leadership of the Holy Spirit, has been a God-send. We pray fervently and listen and patiently wait for God's guidance in all that we do. The success of our ministry is further confirmation that with God, all things are possible.

We encourage African-American Faith Communities wishing to volunteer with us to call, write or e-mail me: Joseph C. Paige Sr., 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; Phone: (919) 231-9774; Fax: (919) 212-3656; E-mail: adoption_children@yahoo.com or dr.jc.paige@adopt-children.org.

VOLUNTEERS

It is essential that we continue to expand our network of adoption and foster care volunteers, recruiting through our expanding church contacts, associations, and conference of the various faith communities. We are especially grateful to the moderators, elders, and overseers of the various faith communities for their continuing support of our efforts and for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. Like us, our volunteers believe that every child deserves a loving, caring, and nurturing home and they are committed to helping make this happen.

Thanks again for your continuing support and encouragement.

\$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (August, September, October, November and December 2001.) or a total of 100 recruits (verified). Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige,
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774;
Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com
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A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

Book of Psalms and a Look at Leviticus

Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President, Congress of Christian Education "O that thou wouldest bless me indeed," 1 Chronicles 4:10 has been my constant prayer over the past six months. God has blessed me to write this article for the first month, January, 2002. Let me pause to wish each of you a Happy Spirit Filled year and to thank you for your past support and the support that you will render this year.

As we visit afresh the Book of the Psalms let us examine the third section which is known as the Leviticus Section. It includes Psalms 73 through 89. Leviticus has been referred to as the Book of Worship. There is no better way to begin the New Year than in a Spirit of Worship. Since it is important that we as Christians start the year off right let us focus on this section. As we look closely at Leviticus two things are ever present. They are that God is Holy and that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. Two key words, Holiness and Sacrifice, are scattered throughout Leviticus.

When we look in retrospect at 2001 each of us can recall moments when we either openly or by inference wondered who was in charge of our lives. It appeared that the affairs of the world was on "Automatic Pilot." Names and events alien to our life style seem to threaten our comfort zone. For consolation join me as we look at Psalm 82.

This Psalm is designated as a Psalm of Asaph, from the tribe of the Levites, who was appointed to be in charge of the Ark after King David danced in and led the procession which brought the Ark back to Jerusalem, 1 Chronicles 15:25 — 16:6. Asaph was to offer prayer and praises to the Lord for blessings of restoring the Ark unto His people. The Lord showed His approval by filling the Temple with the cloud of glory, which represents His presence in the Temple, II Chronicles 5:12-14.

The major thrust of this Psalm is that "God judges the judges of His people." Listen as Asaph declares that God judges His human judges. Asaph calls for Him to act on His justice. He, Asaph, recognizes that many would judge us who were without understanding, and fail to call on God, even though they may have been human agents of the Holy Spirit. As we look in retrospect let us not wonder for Psalm 82 plainly tells us that God is in charge. He will call all of those who will seek to destroy His children to account for their actions. Those who judge and seek to destroy today are being warned that they have ignored God's appointment of them and they will perish the



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

same as those in the past.

Psalm 81 gives us three things to look for. In verse one Asaph reminds us that if we who are appointed to carry the Word become judgmental that God will stand in our midst and will judge us. God our Father judges human judges. In verses 2-7 the Psalmist further warns human judges to their jobs right having already declared God's position. The indictment in verse two is that His people were unjust and partial. Let us examine our hearts. While God speaks to them, the judges in verse 3 and 4, He exclaims in verse 5 that His human judges, in the earth, is without Spiritual or Intellectual understanding and even today they continue in the darkness. Even though God has appointed them gods and in spite of their exalted positions they will be held accountable to God. To end this Psalm Asaph, in verse 8, called on God to arise and judge the earth. As we look forward to 2002 let us remember who we are and whose we are. Let us not linger on the past. Let us lift up Jesus and remember that God is the ultimate judge for it all belongs to Him, (Psalm 24:1).

A Christian Education Moment for Our YOUTH and Young-at-Heart — Quiz For January 2002,

let us examine beginnings

1. What did God do? Genesis 1:2
2. Whose kingdom is being described? Genesis 10:9-10
3. Whose eyes are upon this land? Deuteronomy 11:12
4. Which shall be the greater? Job 8:7
5. When does wisdom begin? Psalm 111:10
6. What precedes our getting understanding? Proverbs 1:7
7. How is the beginning of strife described? Proverbs 17:14
8. Who is being described in this verse? Ecclesiastes 10:13
9. Is there anything too great for God? Isaiah 46:9-13

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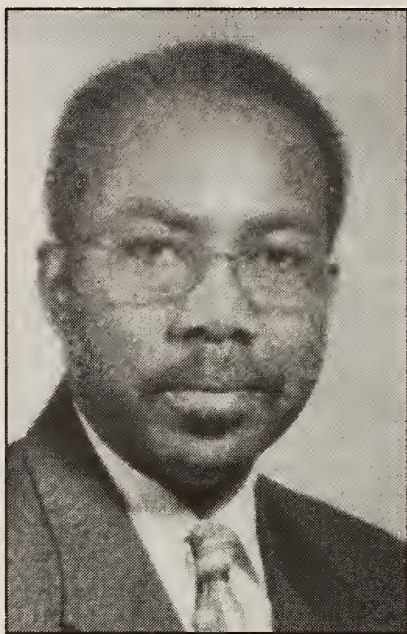
From the Moderator of Moderator's Committee

Happy New Year!

By Rev. James W. Smith, JD
Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

As we approach the year 2002, it is my hope that all of you will experience a blessed year and look forward to the challenges ahead of us as we prepare to do the ministry that has been set before us. On behalf of the Moderator of Moderators Committee, I wish all of you a Happy New Year and it is my prayer that God will continue to shower His blessings upon each of you. The past year has been both exciting and challenging as I have struggled to lift issues that I believe churches and pastors need to consider in this new millennium. From your e-mails, telephone calls and letters, I am very much aware that I have been controversial in many areas but it has been my intention to be so. I also want to thank the many supporters who have urged me to continue lifting up these issues. Let me remind all of you that if I have said anything over the past year or so that has been contradictory to what the Bible says, please disregard it. The Bible ought to always be our primary source.

Now we cannot forget that numerous and rapid changes are taking place in legal matters that may have impact on the local church and that is the reason these issues are lifted for your consideration. At the national level the Internal Revenue Service continues to issue rulings which will affect the church. In addition, tax code changes and tax court decisions make it necessary for the church to keep up with those areas which will affect its work. At the state level, decisions are being made concerning day-care centers and school operations, which will affect those churches that offer such services. At the local level the taxation of properties owned by a church continues to be explored. There are also many local ordinances, which affect a church in its building program and the operation of church



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

activities. Many of these situations will require the church to secure competent legal advice. We must be aware that ignorance of the law will not be a valid excuse if the church is guilty of failing to abide by its legal responsibilities.

For the next few months, I hope to continue to raise issues that will challenge you as you continue in the ministry God has given you. Again, may each of you have a happy, blessed and prosperous New Year.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

Rev. James W. Smith, JD
146 Presidents Drive, Durham, NC 27704
(919) 479-0501
E-mail: Jsmith9450@aol.com

Rev. W.J. Cox
107 Gray St., Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 751-9899

Dr. Joshua J. Haire Jr.
PO Box 53803, Fayetteville, NC 28305
(910) 323-1508

Baptist Headquarters News

By Rev. Eric Harris, GBSC Field Worker

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I am working in our Headquarters Office assisting Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer and the Convention field staff.

We are in the process of updating ALL GBSC records. I want to thank all the Moderators and Past Moderators that provided me with current information on your Association Churches.

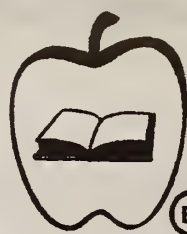
PLEASE HELP ME KEEP OUR DATA BASE CURRENT!

Whenever there are changes or vacancies, in your churches, notify me at Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2338, 800-639-GBSC.

2002 is the 135th Year Celebration of the GBSC. Plan now to join us for our sessions and special events. Order your 2002 Baptist calendar now!

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New Pastor's Corner

Don't Waste Time

By
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church,
Fayetteville, NC



Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter

And that, knowing the time, that now is high time to awake out of sleep; Romans 13:11 (a)

Many people complain about the fact that they don't seem to find sufficient time to do what they need to do, have to do, or want to do. All too often, the problems is not that they don't have "the time" but rather that they waste too much time doing the unnecessary, or doing the unimportant, or even perhaps doing "nothing" at all...

Time is a terrible thing to waste...yet; most don't seem to realize this. The continue to waste time by

...sleeping more than their body actually requires.
...watching foolish and unimportant trivia on T.V.
...failing to apply themselves to the essential and the eternal.

God has allowed us to see a new year. I challenge you to be mindful of your time this year. Wasted time is time that is spent by

...failing to learn and apply wisdom.
...slothfully becoming lazy and indifferent.
...shamefully not doing that which pleases God.

To carelessly waste time is to waste opportunities...precious opportunities, possibilities...astounding possibilities, blessings unlimited blessings.

To carelessly waste time is to waste one's life...a life that is so very, very short, even at its longest.

Life is a journey; no one goes through life without experiencing duality. This past year we have known laughter, tears, hope and despair. There were moments of anxiety, peace, success and failure, accolades, humiliation and loneliness.

Life is a process, a working it out experience. There is so much we need to know and so little time. The temptation to foolishly waste time must be dealt with and overcome. We must realize that we cannot make more time, should we run out of what we already have.

Time is something that's very unique, there's just nothing like it, a very precious

commodity, more precious than gold and silver.

Too many Christians waste time in pleasing the flesh instead of glorifying the Lord. We have wasted so much time yielding to temptation instead of yielding to the Spirit. We waste time submitting to the world rather than obeying the word.

Not all "idle" time is wasted time. There are times when we need to relax and rest, but it should not be all the time! And there are times when we need to withdraw and reminisce, but it should not be all the time! And there will be times when we need to "get away from it all" but we should not have to do this all the time!

Jesus never wasted his time. Every place he went, he did something to magnify God. Every word he spoke, he said something that was well worth saying, and he did not repeat gossip or false rumors.

Every miracle he performed, he performed it with no selfish motives. Jesus never wasted time trying to prove his credentials, trying to satisfy his

critics or trying to build his reputation. Jesus knew that the night was coming when no man could work. Let every man work while it's day.

We just can't afford to waste any more time than we already have.

Time is too short...

Life is too precious...

Souls are too valuable...

Eternity is too long...

Responsibilities are too great...

Opportunities are too few...

Society is too wicked...

And this present age is too demanding for us to just waste time.

State Ushers News

By Alice W. McNair

A Happy New Year to each of you! May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You!

The annual Ushers Workshop was held Nov. 10, 2001, at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, N.C. Opened at 9:45 a.m. (after much frustration).

Fourth Vice President Archie Lofton presiding. Devotions were "Blessed Assurance." Scripture was taken from Psalms 27:1 by Mrs. Ellen Eavens, President of District Ushers Union.

Prayer was by Third Vice President Willie Eavens. Sung was "Draw Me Nearer."

President Charles Fletcher called the session to order. He thanked the ushers for coming and stated that our group, the N.C. Baptist Ushers, had raised over \$270,000 in the past five years! Very Good!

Welcome was by First Vice Youth President Chafe Thompson III. The response was by Mrs. Eva Boyce, Gastonia, N.C.

The workshop was by Dean Charlie Rhodes. He stated our greatest benefit is opportunity and the largest room, is the room for improvement. He asked Assistant Dean, Dr. E.B. Turner to come forward; he did a good workshop. He passed out pamphlets to each one on "How to Usher at Weddings; How to Usher at Funerals; N.C. Baptist Ushers Convention; The Nurses Aid; Organization of an Usher Board." He asked that all N.C. Baptist Ushers: women wear white and the men dark suits.

Remarks were by Sister Helen Thompson. The Recording Secretary told how the Lord had healed her of cancer in a spirit-filled testimony.

The President asked Big Piney Grove Baptist Church, Clinton, N.C., Pastor and choir to come forward. The choir members were beautifully attired in royal blue dresses and silver shoes — Looking Good!

Opening song was "Hold On, You Can Make It."

Fourth Vice Pres. Archie Lofton introduced the speaker, Pastor James Mitchell, First Vice President of the Western Union Association.

The second song was "Nobody But Me, My Lord and I." Rev. Mitchell chose for a text, Matt. 11:4 and Hebrews 11. Faith

is things hope for, the evidence of things not seen. The evidence of a Christian faith. He stated that if you are a child of God, you will show evidence. Rev. Mitchell is a dynamic speaker. We were truly moved by the Holy Spirit in his inspiring message. The choir sang and was requested to sing another song "Come on Jesus and see about me." Big Piney Grove Baptist, the preaching and singing was really good! Let me mention that the Rev. Glenwood Hemmingway was at the keyboard.

State President Fletcher made announcements: The ushers one day session will be held Feb. 23, 2002, at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, N.C. The Annual Session of Ushers will be held July 19-20, 2002, at the Martin St. Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C. Rev. Charles Bullock, Pastor.

An offering was taken. Closing was by Rev. Mitchell. Refreshments were served.

Missing at the workshop were Brother Forest Eaves, First Vice President and State Coordinator Sister Nancy High. We missed you!

We have three persons with long years of service as ushers. Sister Treva Lesance, Tarheel, N.C. 28392, Second Newlight B. Church, 3252 Perdrie Hall Road, St. Paul, N.C. Pastor Rev. Michael Penman. She began ushering in 1933 and is still working — 68 years of service. She attended the workshop.

Sister Effie Cooper, New Salem Baptist Church, P.O. Box 2004, Elizabeth City, N.C. 27090. Pastor Rev. Stanford Jones, has been an Usher for 52 years and is President of Ushers at her church and still Ushering.

Brother Roy Williams, President of Western Union Ushers, has been an Usher for 42 years, a member of the Elizabeth Baptist Church, Autryville, N.C., Rev. R. Jones, Pastor. We are proud of you three! Award will be given at the One Day Session, Feb. 23, 2002, in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Attending the Annual Workshop at Laurel Hill from First Baptist Church, Clinton, N.C., Nov. 10, 2001 were: Carrie Evans, Denise Fisher, and Mattie Murphy.

May you have a Blessed New Year!

Send news to: P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, N.C. 28366

A Call To Greatness

(Book Announcement)

In 1970, L. Venchael Booth, was appointed a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance nine years after he founded the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC). PNBC is one of 13 member bodies of the BWA in the United States and Canada.

Now, in recognition of the groundbreaking work of his father who started this historic denomination, Booth's son, William D. Booth, has written *A Call to Greatness*. Booth is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hampton, Va.

Among the reviews are these:

"...this book is important for several reasons...it provides a survey of the divisions...that produced a new denomination known as the Progressive National Baptist Convention...it is a valiant tribute of a son to a father...and acknowledgment that amid the pain and brokenness of schism...one truth remains: 'the greatest of these is love.' -Bill J. Leonard, Dean and Professor of Church History, Wake Forest Divinity School.

"From the distinct, unique and even privileged vantage point of someone who lived close to the historical drama about which he writes, William D. Booth has produced a most persuasive and moving essay about the actual founder of Progressive National Baptist Convention."

- Clarence G. Newsome, Dean and Associate Professor of Church History, Howard University School of Divinity, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

To order *A Call to Greatness*, contact: Brunswick Public Corporation

PO Box 555, Lawrenceville, Va. 23868

Website: www.brunswickbooks.com

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From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

Rev. Michael R. Smith

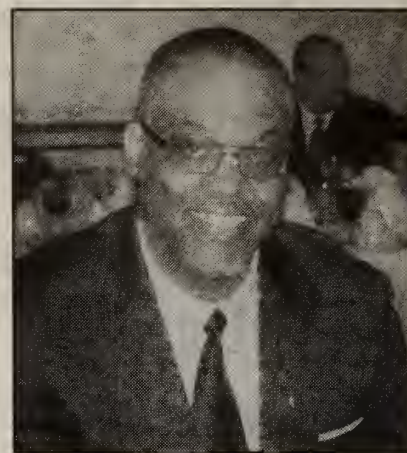
OISM 1st Annual Crime and Incarceration Conference Held at Shaw University

OISM Chairman Michael R. Smith Sr. opened the 1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference on November 30, 2001, by calling the conference attendees to consider the crises caused by crime and incarceration. The United States of America has now become the leading incarcerating nation in the world. Our prisons are full with more prisons under construction to be filled. Conference keynote speaker Dr. Leonidas B. Young II, Pastor of New Kingdom Christian Ministries, Richmond, Va., opened the conference with his first stirring lecture, which included his testimony of how the Lord brought him through his hour of crisis. The Rev. Smith challenged the attendees to take advantage of the excellent presentations and workshops given by expert resource persons. These workshops were held on Friday at Shaw Divinity School. The 10 different workshops addressed the areas of at-risk youth, victims of crime, persons in prisons and aftercare of persons transitioning from prison. One workshop led by Jacklyn Trawick-McClamb included a live teleconference between conference attendees and inmates at the Federal Correc-

tional Complex in Butner, N.C., Friday evening included a special worship experience where the guest speaker was Dr. Aaron Johnson, pastor of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church in Fayetteville, N.C., and former Secretary of the N.C. Department of Corrections (1985-92). Dr. Johnson prophetically and passionately spoke about the issues and focus of church ministry in the 21st century. He used for his biblical text 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.

The Saturday session opened with prayer and Dr. Young's second excellent lecture that morning. This was followed by the Day of Dialogue panel that included Pastor David C. Forbes Sr., Warden Art F. Beeler, Chief Deputy Secretary William Dudley, Ed Privette of Prison Fellowship, Chris Rinehart of N.C. Victim Services, O. Ray Scott, Director of Project Nehemiah and Dean J.T. Roberson Jr. of Shaw Divinity School. Each panelists shared their own strategic solutions to crime and incarceration and responded to an array of serious questions from conference attendees. Saturday afternoon Dr. Young and the New Kingdom Christian Ministries Choir and congregation led our 1st Annual Confer-

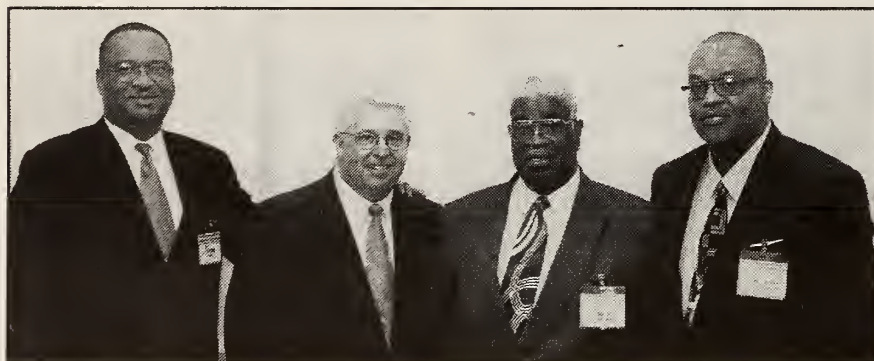
ence Worship Service with great inspirational praise and worship. Dr. Young's final message was entitled "What Do You See?" The conference concluded on a solid spiritual, practical and informational foundation that will surely support more effective ministry in the area of crime and incarceration. Thanks be to God our Father for allowing such an array of persons from across our state to come together to address, strategies and implement more outreach to people. Also thanks to all the committed members of the OISM who helped and supported this great first conference. Special thanks to Dean J.T. Roberson and Shaw University Divinity School. Next year's conference is in the works and more information will be coming out in early 2002.



Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.



Rev. J.T. Roberson



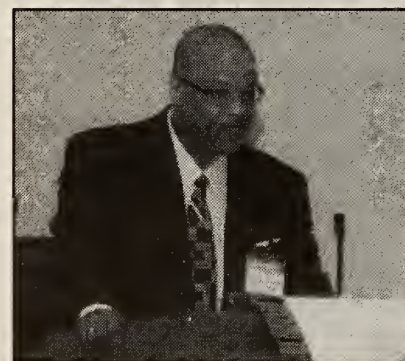
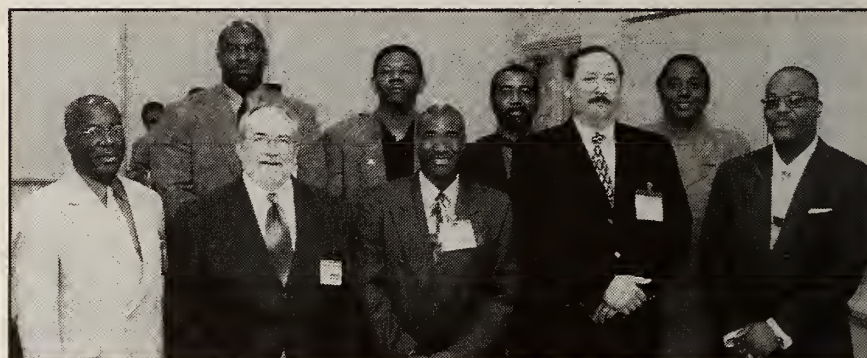
Left to right: Dr. A. D. Logan, W. Edward Privette, Dr. Aaron Johnson and Chaplain Michael R. Smith.



Dr. David Forbes, Dr. Leonidas B. Young, Chaplain Michael R. Smith.



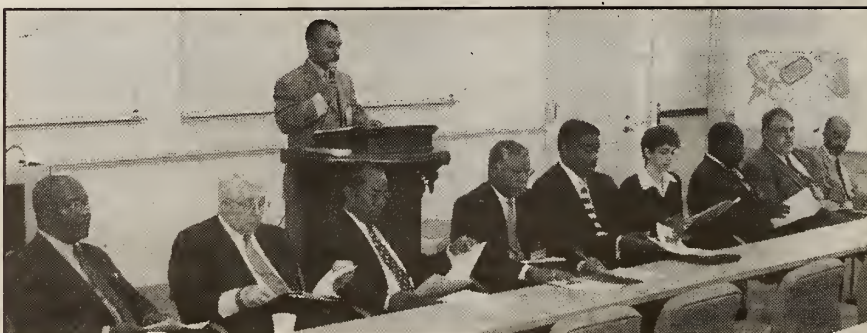
New Kingdom Christian Ministries Choir.



Rev. John Prince



Rev. T.C. McCullers



Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

Jethro's Advice To Moses Delegation Organizations

Exodus 18:13-17

The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood around him from morning till evening. When his father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said, "What is this you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge, while all these people stand around you from morning till evening?"

Moses answered him, "Because the people come to me to seek God's will. Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God's decrees and laws."

Moses' father-in-law replied, "What you are doing is not good. You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone. Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you. You must be the people's representative before God and bring their disputes to him. Teach them the decrees and laws, and show them the way to live and the duties they are to perform. But select capable men from all the people — men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain — and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. Have them serve as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring every difficult case to you; the simple cases they can decide themselves. That will make your load lighter, because they will share it



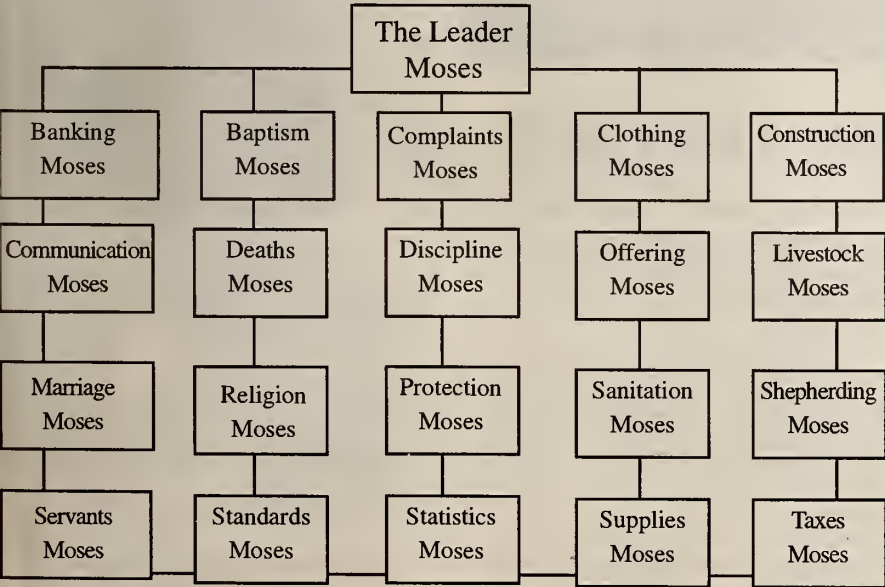
Portia Brandon, M.Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

with you. If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied."

Moses listened to his father-in-law and did everything he said. He chose capable men from all Israel and made them leaders of the people, officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. They served as judges for the people at all times. The difficult cases they brought to Moses, but the simple ones they decided themselves.

Then Moses sent his father-in-law on his way, and Jethro returned to his own country.

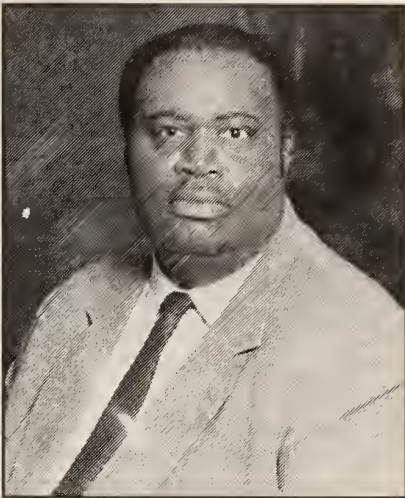
The Importance of Shared Ministry Moses Disorganization Chart



From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

News from the Foreign Field: The Lott Carey Convention

- The following is a recent report of the Special Projects of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention.
- 250,000+ articles of clothing and shoes to Liberia in post war aid (Fall 1997)
 - 7000+ library books to the Baptist Theological Seminary of Liberia (Fall 1999)
 - 7000+ library books to the Baptist Convention College of South Africa (Fall 1999)
 - 7000+ library books to the Baptist Theological Seminary of Zimbabwe (Fall 1999)
 - \$20,000 in disaster relief for victims of terrorist bombings in Kenya (Winter 1998)
 - \$100,000 in post war rebuilding in Liberia (Spring 1999)
 - \$30,000 in disaster relief for victims of hurricanes in Nicaragua (Spring 1999)
 - \$50,000 in disaster relief for earthquake victims in Turkey (Winter 1999/Spring 2000)
 - \$50,000 in disaster relief for flood victims in North Carolina (Winter 1999/Spring 2000)
 - \$35,000 in special transportation needs for Nigeria (Winter 1999/Spring 2000)
 - \$50,000 in disaster relief for flood victims in Mozambique (Spring 2000)
 - Evangelism tour to South Africa (Spring 1997)
 - Evangelism and Medical Mission (Fall 1997)
 - Evangelism tour to Jamaica (Winter 1998)
 - Evangelism and Medical Mission to Guyana (Fall 1998)
 - Laymen's Evangelism tour to Jamaica (Winter 1999)
 - Education and Exposure tour to South



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

- Africa (Summer 1999)
 - Youth Work, witness, and worship tour to Guyana (Summer 1999)
 - Evangelism tour to Guyana (Winter 1999)
 - Women's Education and Medical Mission tour to India (Spring 2000)
 - Youth Work, Witnesses, and Worship tour to Jamaica (Summer 2000)
 - HIV/AIDS conference in Zimbabwe (Summer 2000)
- Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention
300 I Street, NE Suite 104
Washington, DC 20002
202-543-3200 (Telephone)
202-543-6300 (facsimile)
/LottCarey@aol.com (E-mail)

OISM SELECTS MINISTRY LEADERS FOR 2002

Chairman Michael R. Smith announced at the GBSC 134th Annual Session in Asheville, N.C., the persons who would lead the four major components of this ministry. These persons will serve as OISM coordinators in helping GBSC churches become more knowledgeable and better equipped at responding to crime and incarceration.

Rev. Jeffrey B. Locus,
Co-Chairman

Chaplain, Pamlico Correctional Institution, Bayboro, N.C.

COORDINATORS OF AT-RISK YOUTH MINISTRIES

Rev. Michael Pope, Associate — Oak City Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C.
Rev. Wavey Williams, Associate — Springfield Memorial Baptist Church, Gastonia, N.C.

COORDINATORS OF IN-PRISON MINISTRIES

Chaplain Betty Brown — North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women, Raleigh, N.C.

Wright Cadwell — First Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C.

COORDINATORS OF AFTERCARE MINISTERS

Rev. Carolyn Brown, Associate — North End Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, N.C.

Paul Bridgers — First Baptist Church, Goldsboro, N.C.

OUR NEXT OFFICIAL OISM MEETING

Saturday, Jan. 26, 2002 at GBSC Headquarters, Raleigh, N.C., 10 a.m.

A Black College is not so much a harvest ground as it is a road to Higher Ground. Judith Boswell Griffin

SAVE THE DATE

BLACK COLLEGE AWARENESS DAY
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2002 • 10 A.M.-3 P.M.
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C.
Dr. Clifford A. Jones Sr., Senior Minister

Over 50 Historically Black Colleges/Universities
Financial Aid Information • High School Band Showcase
Voter Registration • College Survival Rap Sessions
ADA/Disabilities Information • Greek Displays
Door Prizes and more...

For more information, contact Cathy Jones (704) 537-6197
or Diane Ellis (704) 370-5675
"Servants Affirming God's Word Globally"

WINTER IS HERE!!

Health & Human Services

By Anita Holmes, Executive Director

January is National Eye Care Month

Until recently, I do not recall ever hearing that January is National Eye Care Month. I suppose this lack of visibility reflects the generally poor attention given to eye care. For many, getting to a general medical practitioner or what is frequently termed "the doctor" can be difficult enough. For most, getting to the ophthalmologist or eye doctor is even more of a challenge. Even among health professionals and health promotion efforts, eye care has often received secondary status. For instance, for the first time, the government sponsored **Healthy People 2010**, a national blue print for reducing significant preventable health threats, includes vision objectives.

In addition to affecting the general quality of life, visual impairment can significantly impact daily activities, learning, communication, work, and health. In the United States, almost fourteen million persons are estimated to have low vision. The leading cause of visual impairment are diabetic retinopathy, cataract, glaucoma, and age related macular degeneration.

With diabetes, too much sugar in the blood for a long period of time causes complications. This high blood sugar can damage many parts of the body, including the eyes. However there is a lot that can be done to prevent or slow down problems. People with diabetes are also more likely to have cataracts and glaucoma. To prevent diabetes eye problems, it is recommended by the National Diabetes Information Clearinghouse that those person with diabetes:

- Keep their blood sugar and blood pressure as close to normal as possible.
- Have an eye doctor perform a dilated eye examine once a year.

- Have the eye doctor check for signs of cataract and glaucoma.
- If pregnant, see an eye doctor during the first three months of pregnancy.
- If planning to get pregnant, ask the doctor if they should have an eye exam.
- Do not smoke.

Glaucoma, another major eye problem, disproportionately impacts African Americans. Like diabetes and hypertension, which may go undetected until the damage is done, at least half of the persons affected with glaucoma do not now they have it. Therefore, these persons are not able to benefit from the treatments available.

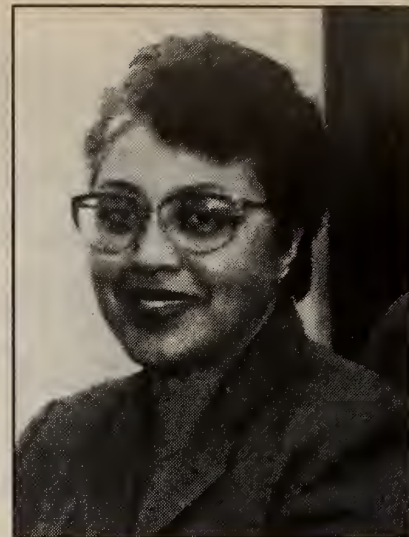
While visual impairments can increase with age, many infants and young children are at high risk for vision problems. Vision problems may begin before children start school. Therefore, **Healthy People 2010** recommends that a screening examination be performed on children before they reach five years of age.

Although the above discussion does not include specific information on other eye health problems and is designed to generally raise awareness, it is important to remember that blindness and visual impairment can generally be reduced with early detection and treatment. The above information should not take the place of the advice of your health care provider. Please contact your health care provider concerning the eye care recommendations appropriate for you.

If you are seeking an eye care professional, you may wish to ask your doctor, family members and friends, call a hospital, and/or contact your insurance company or health plan to see what providers and

services are covered. If you need financial assistance, the following resources may be helpful:

- Eye Care America — National Eye Care Project (Free and low cost eye exams for U.S. citizens 65 and older who have not had access to an ophthalmologist in the past three years). Call 1-800-222-EYES.
- Vision USA (Free eye care to uninsured, low-income workers and their families. Screening takes place only during January, with exams provided later in the year). Call 1-800-766-4466.
- Lions Clubs International (Services vary from club to club). Check your telephone book for the local club or call the national office: 1-630-571-5466.
- Celebrate Sight: Do You Know Your Glaucoma Risk? (Free examinations and treatment for glaucoma to people without medical insurance). Call 1-800-391-EYES.
- Mission Cataract USA (Free cataract surgery). Call 1-800-343-7265.
- Knights Templar Eye Foundation (Assistance for eye surgery). Call 1-733-205-3838.
- Sight for Students, a Vision Service Plan (Eye examination and glasses to children 18 years and younger). Call 1-888-290-4964.
- New Eyes for the Needy (Vouchers for new prescription eyeglasses). Call 1-973-376-4903.
- The Medicine Program (Assistance in enrolling in patient assistance programs that provide prescription medicine). Call 1-573-996-7300.
- Directory of Prescription Drug Patient



Dr. Anita Holmes

Assistance Programs 1999-2000 (Identifies company programs that provide prescription medications free of charge to physicians for qualifying patients). Call 1-800-PMA-INFO.

The following sources were used in the development of this article may be contacted for additional information:

National Eye Institute
2020 Vision Place
Bethesda, MD 20892-3655
1-301-496-5248
www.nei.nih.gov

National Diabetes Information Clearinghouse:
1 Information Way
Bethesda, MD 20892-3560
Phone: 1-301-654-3327
Fax: 1-301-907-8906
Email: ndic@info.niddk.nih.gov

Healthy People 2010
<http://www.health.gov/healthypeople>
Healthy People Information line: 1-800-367-4725

As we seek to make positive changes during the New Year, let us take better care of our eyes and encourage others — family, friends, congregation members, and co-workers to seek "eye health."

FAITH AND FITNESS • By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

Body & Soul In Tact for the Journey

God once again has extended his ultimate Grace and Mercy toward his people by allowing us to witness another New Year! Happy New Year to all!

If you are a regular reader of "Faith and Fitness" articles, you may recall that a couple of months ago, I mentioned that Lewis Chapel Baptist Church is involved in a project entitled "Body & Soul" A Celebration of Healthy Living. This project, sponsored by the American Cancer Society has a proven record of success in getting participants of African-American churches to increase the servings of fruits and vegetables that they eat. The project was adapted from two effective projects, "Black Churches United for Better Health" and "Eat for Life."

The Body & Soul church committee made plans for December 9, 2001, to be Body & Soul Day. We decided that we would provide information to the 100 Project Participants on that day along with having fruit available for parishioners as they left the services. We also made plans to make a variety of fruit-flavored smoothies for parishioners after the 11 a.m.

service.

The American Cancer Society stresses that project success increases with Pastor support. I met with our Pastor, Dr. John D. Fuller Sr. and asked what he would like to do in support of the project. He informed me that he would preach a sermon on healthy living on Body & Soul Day.

I must admit that Dr. Fuller came through and preached a wonderful and inspiring message, entitled "Body & Soul" In Tact for the Journey.

The focal scripture came from III John 2, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

Following are highlights of Pastor Fuller's message:

The Soul, which longs for shelter with the eternal, will find its way to the eternal, regardless. With this as a fact, we can focus on the journey of the soul to the eternal. There are many alternate routes that can be taken to accomplish the journey. Some routes or roads may be better than others. When we consider the relationship

of the Soul to the Body, a healthy body that houses the soul will help the soul to have a more quality ride to the eternal. The soul may stay longer, if it has a more inviting place to abide.

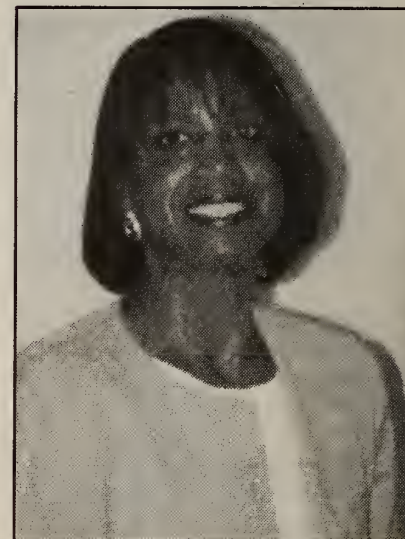
Our bodies are like used cars that sometime need repair. Sometimes we can get a good engine from a wrecked car and put it in a car that needs repairs and the car can continue to run good. Sometimes, our bodies need some repairs.

We need to do a better job of maintaining our bodies. Consider I Thess. 5:23.

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

This scripture shows us that balance is necessary. We are to take care of our spirits, souls, and bodies until Jesus returns. We must make repairs to improve our bodies, when we can. The suggestions for improvement were:

- Live Right
- Eat a Proper diet and exercise



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

- Don't smoke anything
- Refrain from drinking alcohol
- Be mindful of how we use and misuse the body

We should take steps to provide a good place for our souls to dwell, while we are here. We need to get sleep and rest and the amount of sleep and rest we need increases as we age.

With regard to suggestions for eating, we need to eat the **right foods** and in the **right amounts**. We sometimes say that we

(Continued on next page)

A Charge To Keep I Have

By Rev. Dennis Leach, BS. M.Div.

A charge to keep I have, A God to glorify, who gave His Son my soul to save, and Fit it for the sky. To serve this present age, my calling to fulfill, O may it all my powers engage, to do my Masters will.

The understanding that one has been "called" to ministry is essential in the Baptist denomination. So the question arises: To what is the minister called, a career or a profession? To an occupation or a vocation? A call to ministry is also a call to preparation. Preparation involves coming to grips with your calling. Jesus after calling the disciples taught them about the Kingdom of God, about himself, about religious leaders, about people, and about ministry. On top of that Jesus equipped his disciples with some intangibles. Just as Jesus played a crucial role in the life and ministry of his disciples, senior pastors should do likewise for their sons and daughters, who answer their calls to the gospel ministry. Could you imagine what would have happened if Jesus had just called his disciples and assumed they had learned enough growing up in the synagogue, and sent them out to serve? The outcome would be predictable; you would end up with a ministry mess. To build a ministry based on integrity requires that a minister's sense of calling, and concept of service must be biblical, ethical, and Christ-

like. Jesus not only called the twelve, but he helped to prepare them for service.

Most Baptist ministers would like to identify with Jeremiah's account of his calling: "The word of the Lord came to me, saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations'" (Jeremiah 1:4,5). Jeremiah the messenger from God to Israel believed that the Sovereign Lord graciously planned for him to be a spokesman for God from the beginning of his existence. Christian ministers should likewise be confident of God's plan for their lives as revealed in their call to the Christian ministry. This conviction about the will of God is more than a choice of careers according to a personality inventory; it is an acknowledgment of a divine appointment. As God called Moses and sent him on a mission of redemption (Ex. 3:10), so God calls and sends the modern pastor/minister. Our response to the Lord's calling should be like that of Isaiah, "Here am I, send me!" (Isaiah 6:8). In the Baptist church a call to ministry is primarily understood as a call to preach the gospel. It is God-led and ordained preaching of the word of God that people really need in this hour. Preaching is the first thing that Jesus tells his disciples to do when he sends them out to minister (Matt. 10:7). And it is God-

inspired preaching that the poor, those bound, the spiritually blind, and the oppressed need to hear (Luke 4:18,19). When Jesus read in the synagogue at Nazareth from the book of Isaiah, three of the purposes of God's anointing addressed preaching. Preaching to the poor, preaching deliverance to the captives, and preaching the acceptable year of the Lord. Preaching is central to the minister's call, or charge. God has chosen the vehicle of preaching to reach the lost, the hurting, the discouraged, the disillusioned, the weak, and the oppressed of this world. Preaching and ministry go hand in hand. Every person called to the gospel ministry ought to be able to preach, or say a word for the Lord. I once heard a senior pastor say that folks in the church will forgive a preacher for almost anything, except not preaching on Sunday morning. Nolan B. Harmon writes in his book *Ministerial Ethics and Etiquette*:

The sermon is, by established custom, a monologue that the preacher delivers without fear of contradiction or interruption. But if the preacher, who is now protected by laws prohibiting any interruption of divine services, were to expect the flow of his logic to be challenged or questioned, there would be fewer weak arguments, and poorly constructed sermons being delivered.

Preaching has, is, and will go on. Paul's advice to young pastor Timothy was to: "Study, to shew myself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Timothy 2:15). Preaching is not a natural encounter. It requires preparation, and practice. Preaching should always be seen as a serious matter by those called to preach. Lives are at stake, and the welfare of the kingdom of God on earth rest in the hands and hearts of the clergy who articulate its meaning. Preaching empowered by the Spirit transforms the world of those who hear God's word. It is a grand and awesome task of mounting the steps of a pulpit. When ministers are true to their call, their preaching will be effective. As we prepare to preach, seek a complete knowledge of the passage, and read all that you can that may be pertinent to it. Use encyclopedias, Bible dictionaries, commentaries, and other homiletical materials. Draw on anything in history, in literature, or in life to make the passage God has inspired meaningful and pertinent to the people you are preaching to. Under-gird your preparation with prayer! The New Testament speaks of preaching as proclamation, a herald's trumpet announcing the Lord who came, died, rose, and is coming again. I have come to the conclusion that our calling is partly validated by those to whom we preach to on Sunday mornings. From a Hebrew perspective, the word "amen" is to be in agreement with what has been said. And, from the African-American perspective the preacher enjoys when the people talk back to him or her in agreement. The late Dr. Samuel D. Proctor writes in his collaborative book, *We Have This Ministry*.

In earlier times, when education was a very special privilege, the pastor may well have been the only educated person available and had to function as a library, an almanac, a travel bureau, a first aid expert, an attorney, an architect, and an investment counse-



Rev. Dennis Leach BS.M.Div.

lor. Even today, in many poor communities where few people have succeeded in becoming educated, the pastor remains the main resource person. Obviously, education can never be a substitute for piety, devotion, and sterling Christian character. Learning alone will never do as the pastor's principle gift. But no congregation should have to choose between "learning and burning," between intellectual acumen and spiritual fervor.

God's work and people can be quite complicated; it is in your best interest to do all you can to prepare yourself for kingdom work. If you are not, or unable to go to the academy, then bring the academy to you. At a minimum, purchase books and materials that will help to inform and influence you about the do's and don'ts of ministry. As a young pastor who had not formally been trained beyond a GED, I chose to expand my library. To be truthful I believe God watched over me in that pastorate so that I did not make a ministry mess until I could be formally trained. Having had a mentor who had graduated from an accredited seminary helped tremendously. The church where I attend, Lewis Chapel in Fayetteville has a model program in place to assist those coming to grips with a call to the preaching ministry. Dr. Fuller, the senior pastor at Lewis Chapel has evidently accepted his responsibility in helping to equip persons entering the ministry by putting in a "Ministerial Development Course." The course is a prerequisite for candidates, and its purpose is designed to assist the candidate in preparation for their trial sermon, through a six month course that examines "The Call, Christian Ethics, Church Etiquette, Christian Doctrines, Worship in the Christian Baptist Church, Baptist History/Polity, Counseling, and Conflict Management." The candidates have the privilege of not only being taught by Dr. Fuller the senior pastor, but by graduates from ITC Morehouse School of Religion, Georgia, Shaw Divinity School, North Carolina, South Eastern Seminary, North Carolina and Guadalupe Seminary, Texas.

After completing my own seminary training, I was asked a question by the Vice President of Carver Bible College in Atlanta, Ga. He asked: "reverend what did they teach you, and what did you learn while in the seminary?" I told him I learned how much I don't know. Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC President puts it this way: "any university, or college teaches more than you can learn." My brothers and sisters I wish you well as you seek to answer God's call to the gospel ministry, and as you endeavor to fulfill admirably your cleric charge.

Faith and Fitness continued...

are focusing on healthy eating by sticking to salad. But we defeat the purpose, if we load our plate and include lots of bacon bits, cheese, and high-fat dressing. What we are eating and how much, must be considered, even if the food is supposed to be a "healthy selection." We must consider Genesis 2:9a":

"And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow ever tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food;"

Based on what God intended for food from the beginning, we need to eat more fruits and vegetables. We are encouraged to eat at least five servings of fruits and vegetables everyday. As we eat more fruits and vegetables, we must also make sure that we are eating the right serving sizes of meats. We should strive to **Live Right, Sleep Right, Rest Right, Eat Right, and Exercise Right**. Regardless of the exercise that we choose, we must try to exercise more conscientiously. We must do something that will cause our heart rate to go up and make us sweat, on a regular basis. There are two scriptures to keep in mind Hebrews 12:1 and I Cor. 6:19 in mind:

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that

is set before us, Hebrew 12:1.

What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? I Cor. 6:19

Our bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost, and we do not have the right to do whatever we want with our bodies. People who believe that they can live any way that they wish, may a few years down the road have trouble breathing and not be able to walk very far. We are not our own and our body is the temple of the Holy Ghost.

We have been bought with a price by Jesus. Jesus paid it all, all to him we owe. The freedom that Jesus bought for us obligates us to work toward having the best bodies possible so that we can run as long as we can.

If we rent an apartment, we do not violate the building rules. Our bodies belong to God and we must not violate the building rules.

We must live right, give God free reign, and eat right, by filling up on God's Word! We are filled up on a lot of things, but we must fill up on God's Word! We must exercise right by letting the Holy Ghost take control. We can clap our hands and run for the Lord! We must run and see what the ends going to be! Keep the Body and Soul In Tact for the Journey, so that we can run on to see what the end will be!

**As the New Year approaches
keep your eyes focused
on His beautiful creations!**

Global Mission Home and Abroad

This is to introduce to you the Rev. Dr. Elbert Lee, pastor of the North End Missionary Baptist Church and chairman of Global Mission Home and Abroad and Dr. Pearl Younis Grayson, president, respectively, of the non-profit enterprise, HOLY-HOLY Incorporated.

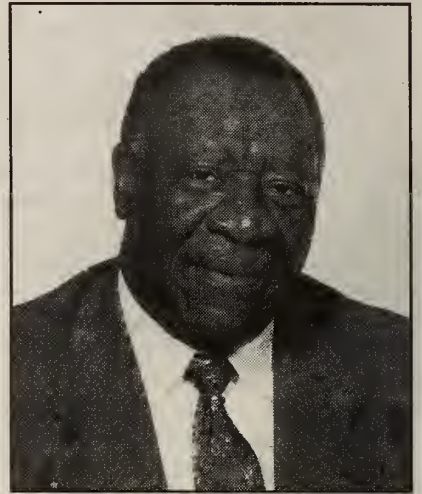
These two personalities of the

Christian praxis have bonded themselves in a functional partnership of Kingdom building, in an endeavor to help rebuild with us the vineyards of basic services and benefits for the beleaguered people of rural and urban Liberia, especially women and children, engaged in the process of repatriation and reconstruction.

In all their endeavors of selfless

upliftment, accordingly, the government of Liberia would greatly appreciate the humanitarian and solidaristic contributions of all peoples and organizations everywhere.

Faithfully yours,
Jonathan C. Taylor
Minister of State for Presidential
Affairs and Chief of Staff



Dr. Elbert Lee

Submitted by Dr. Elbert Lee

This is a letter introducing a Christian non-profit co-operation, called HOLY-HOLY GLOBAL MISSION, home and abroad. HOLY-HOLY GLOBAL MISSION was or has been established mainly to carry out the word and love of our Father, The Almighty God in sharing all assistance in clothing, food, clothing, medicine and medical assistance; financial assistance, bibles, children school supplies and last but not least all assistance possible for the needs and help of all people of Monrovia, Liberia, in West Africa and other Africa countries.

The chairman of HOLY-HOLY is Rev. Dr. Elbert Lee Jr., pastor of the North End Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to pastoring he is also affiliated with other organizations. The president of HOLY-HOLY, Dr. Pearl Younis Grayson, a patriot daughter and great-granddaughter of Liberia, a member of North End Missionary Church and a born in Christian, Liberia being the first independent and most peaceful country in the entire Africa, a country founded by the American colonization society for the return of freed slave to Africa after slavery. A hard working country for the entire Africa's Freedom (The Mother of OAU).

Liberia started in 1822, Liberia is more than a hundred years old, has been a hard and prosperous, uplifting encouragement to all other African countries independence.

Liberia had never had political clashes, nor problems all her life, not until the early

80's for the first time in history. After or in the 90's a civil political war broke up. That war destroyed Liberia in many ways.

"The Last Supper"

The Last Supper was an opportunity for a final act of table fellowship between Jesus and his disciples. Clearly Jesus anticipates his imminent death and as such give sacramental overtones to the bread and the wine as symbols of his body and blood. The blood of Jesus was to become the new basis or kinship among those who are within the true family of Christ. This became the basis of Christians calling themselves brother and sisters.

We are looking forward to our trip back to Liberia by the end of August through September 2002. We will be having all needs and every possible means of assistance to our brothers, sisters, children and churches of the great Liberia shipped in advance of the trip to enable our meeting upon arrival.

Pastor Seeks Partnership With Liberia

A visiting pastor from the North-end Baptist Church in North Carolina, Rev. Dr. Elbert Lee Jr., has toured several areas in Bomi County for possible assistance to the Liberian people.

Dr. Lee said despite the negative views and perceptions about Liberia in the Diaspora: he will forge partnership with several organizations to alleviate the current hardship and provide employment.

Speaking at the Providence Baptist Church in Monrovia, where he served as

guest-preacher over the weekend, Dr. Lee said he is interested in how Liberians can have food, shelter and medical care at their disposal.

Visiting the Health Ministry, Old Folks Home, several learning institutions and parts of Bomi County, Dr. promised to make a difference in the lives of the suffering masses.

Preaching on the topic "The Beauty of Heaven, A Condition of Healing," Dr. Lee urged Liberians to carve out a development frame work for the survival of the nation.

Dr. Lee said the destruction of the country was enormous and needs urgent assistance from the international community in rebuilding.

The Baptist prelate said he took interest in Liberia since the Baptist Conference in North Carolina, when Dr. Pearl Younis Grayson of the Providence Baptist Church briefed him about the prevailing economic hardship.

Dr. Lee then promised to visit Liberia to get a glimpse of how the country looks and to find ways of alleviated the suffering of the people.

For her part, Dr. Grayson said as a patriot daughter of Liberia, she will explore all avenues that will bring peace and economic development in the country.

She said Liberia would be great if all peace loving citizens who are privileged to visit the international community attract investors to Liberia.

Meanwhile, the Baptist preacher said he

wants to meet with President Charles Taylor to discuss the immediate priorities of the country.

Dr. Lee also promised to meet other human right groups, youth organizations to discuss issues affecting the country.

Wish List

Prayers, desk top computer with accessories/software, sewing machines — manual (new/used), photocopier, mimeographing machines and accessories, school kits (pens, pencils, notebooks, crayons, ruler, back pack, etc.), health kits/toiletries, garden vegetable seeds, Bibles, Bible portions, tracks, hymn books (new/used), clothing/bedding/footwear, rice (staple food, 100 lb. bag costs U.S. \$40), foodstuff — canned goods (high protein), milk, etc., (non-perishables), household utensils, motorbikes/bicycles (with spares and tools) for field evangelists, scholarship assistance for seminary students (U.S. \$650 per year per student — tuition/books/fees in Liberia), gifts/assistance to local pastors and field evangelists (The average pastor earns between U.S. \$5-\$20 per month depending on the size of the church), still and video cameras (used/new), manual typewriters, tractor for farming, agricultural implements, transportation — 4WD jeep/truck/mini bus (shift stick gears), megaphones and diesel generator set (20-75 KVA).

Bear Creek Association Launches Use Of New Building

By The Free Press

GOLDSBORO — The Bear Creek Missionary Baptist Association Headquarter's has built a multipurpose edition to their current headquarters and is making it available for public use.

Ground was broken and construction began in November 2000. The new facility, phase two of a four-phase expansion plan, was dedicated in August. The facility is available for the general public in nearby counties like Wayne, Greene, Lenoir, Jones and Pitt, and serves the many congregations who are associational members.

"There are four phases to our vision for 19 acres of land located at 1800 South Slocumb Street in Goldsboro," said Dr. Willie J. Cox, moderator of the association, as he expounded on the vision for the Baptist headquarters. Cox also is pastor of Greater Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Kinston.

Cox stated that phase one saw the completion of a sanctuary for worship that seats a congregation of 900 with 9,900 square feet. The choir stand seats 110 members. Phase two, the multipurpose building completed in August, is a facility of six classrooms, (one which is used for the Bear Creek Academy Bible class), four



The Bear Creek Missionary Association Headquarters' multipurpose building in Goldsboro, top, is available for use by the congregations in the associations in the association and by the general public. The dining area seats 500 and, with its commercial kitchen, includes 9,800 square feet.

offices (including the moderator's), a commercial kitchen and a dining area that seats 500, with a square footage of 9,800.

The total value of the sanctuary and multipurpose building is \$1.4 million, not including the property. Cox said he would like to pave all parking lots and driveways in the next two years to complete phase one.

Phase three's goal is to build 30 retirement homes for the elderly. Phase four envisions park and recreation facilities to be developed on three and one-half acres of wooded land.

"These facilities have been developed with the community and surrounding area in mind," Cox said. "They are privately owned, but here to serve the public."

In building the multipurpose area, 12 different contractors were used. They gave discounts as donations to the association totaling \$26,000. "I consider it a miracle to be able to build for less than \$500,000," continued Cox. "The trustees appropriated \$519,179.49. I can't see how it happened other than to say 'God did it.'"



Dr. Willie Cox

SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS

Shaw University School and Old North State Host Health and Spirituality Conference

On Saturday, Dec. 8, 2001, Shaw University Divinity School (SUDS) and Old North State Medical Society (ONS) hosted the *First Annual Health Enrichment Through Medicine and Spirituality Conference*. On the historic campus of Shaw University, physicians, ministers, community leaders, government officials, foundation and business leadership, and many others committed to eliminating health disparity gathered to spend the day engaging in dialogue which would serve as a "blueprint" for health enhancement, especially among African-Americans.

The goal of the HEMS Conference was to empower churches and communities to expand their repertoire of responses to conditions that weaken the health and well-being of families, friends, and future generations.



Dr. Olds



Dean Robertson

Conference presenters included Dr. James T. Olds, Jr., Dean of SUDS, Dr. William B. Olds, President of ONS Medical Society who each shared the vision of their respective organizations in eliminating health disparities. Dr. Robertson's announcement of a course on Health and Spirituality to be offered during the Spring 2002 semester was received with applause. Dr. Olds indicated that the Old North State Medical Society (ONS) would seek to involve churches throughout the North Carolina in health education and training.

Other discussion leaders and their topics: **Eliminating Health Disparities** (Sonia Barnes, Special Assistant for Community Affairs to North Carolina Governor, Mike Easley), **Caring for Our Families** (George Saunders, M.D., and 2nd Vice President of ONS) and Dr. James Jones of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church of Windsor, N.C.), **Caring for Our Mental and Emotional Health** (Thealeeta Monet, Executive Director of ONS), **Training and Education** (Dr. Joseph Paige of SUDS), and **Funding Options** (Leslie Brown, Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Minority Health, NC DHHS).

The above topics were selected because of the following concerns, especially in the African-American community: Appropriate care for the elderly, escalating diseases like HIV and AIDS, health disparities, heart disease, stroke, renal failure, violence, debilitating circumstances that lead to poverty, untreated emotional challenges, domestic abuse, homelessness, joblessness, incarceration, and permanent underclass status.

Through active dialogue, Conference

attendees received by the end of the day (1) compelling perspectives on medicine and spirituality and implications for health enhancement, (2) learned strategies for health enhancements in our communities, and (3) discussed efforts to pursue funding to support this work. The overwhelming opportunity for Conference attendees was to *promote health lifestyle advocacy*.



Dr. Hatch

Keynote Address

During the morning session Dr. John Hatch, Senior Program Development Officer with the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, gave the keynote address. He elaborated on *Health Promotion in the African-American Community With a Focus on the Contributions Faith Organizations Can Play*.

Dr. Hatch's area of expertise is in health promotion and disease prevention with black church organizations as sponsors and facilitators. For over 40 years he has been involved in teaching and research related to health and development. He currently is involved with outreach ministry to pregnant women and parents with children under two years old under the sponsorship of the General Baptist State Convention.

Dr. Hatch believes that institutional supports are vital to maintenance of pro-family community values. He sees the Black church as the institution of primary importance in encouraging and supporting child friendly communities. Dr. Hatch was commissioner and moderator of the Medical Commission of the World Council of Churches, Geneva, Switzerland from 1986 to 1992. In this role he was involved in health and development on a worldwide basis. During the 1960's and 70's, Dr. Hatch was associated with the Tufts University Medical School Team responsible for developing the nation's first and second comprehensive community health centers designed to serve, respectively, rural and urban and low and modest income persons.

Dr. Hatch has written over 30 scholarship publications and regularly presents paper on matters related to health promotions and development.

Recognition Luncheon

During the Conference luncheon, special recognition was given to Dr. George C. Debnam, local physician, community leader and member of Shaw University Board of Trustees. A plaque in his honor and bearing his name as "*embodiment and personification health and spirituality blended and offered and practiced for the enhancement and edification of humanity*" will be displayed in the George C. Debnam Hall on the campus Shaw University. Dr. Debnam was also given a gift of inspirational verses. Attending the Conference and on hand to witness the special recognition were Mrs. Marjorie Debnam, wife of Dr. George Debnam, and Dr. Marie Debnam, his daughter and serves in the medical practice with her father.

About the Sponsors



Dr. Carl Haisch and Dr. Marjorie Debnam

Shaw University is the oldest historically Black University in the South. Shaw was founded in 1865 by New England missionary, Henry Martin Tupper. In December 1865, Tupper gathered six ex-slaves for his first theology class.

By the end of the 19th century, Shaw University was comprised of the Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Law, in addition to a College of Liberal Arts with a Theological Department. In 1918, the schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Law were dissolved because of inadequate finances, the College of Liberal Arts with a Theological Department remained.

In 1961 the School of Religion became Shaw Divinity School. Today, Shaw University Divinity School has emerged as a leader in theological education for the African-American community.

Dr. Talbert O. Shaw is President of Shaw University. Dr. James T. Roberson Jr. is Dean of the Divinity School.

The Old North State Medical Society is the nation's oldest state association of black physicians. The Society was founded in 1886 and has from that date until the present directed its energies to the objectives of equity in health care, equal opportunity for black professionals and equal care for black patients. It involves itself in advocacy and health promotion and through all areas of life that influence health and well-being. This includes education, economics, mental health, family and community.

Founded in 1886 its members shared a common concern. They were doubly isolated. There were few black physicians in practice, and they practiced with the black community, without access to further education, or to hospitals and hospital facilities. A new thrust, however, developed for the Society around 1920. There were now a number of highly qualified black physicians in North Carolina. The Old North State provided financial support, advice and much appreciated moral support to the individual physicians who then found themselves fighting the battle for equality. Today, the pool of black minority physicians in the state is approximately 1,200. The organization is chartered in the state as non-profit. In addition, a series of local or county Medical Societies are situated throughout the state in the following cities: Charlotte, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Raleigh, Durham, Fayetteville and Greenville, Elizabeth City and Mount Airy are also developing chapters.

Dr. William B. Olds is President of Old North State Medical Society.

From the Office of the Third Vice President Rev. N.T. Davis

Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School News

Grace and Peace be unto you all in the Baptist family across the State.

Happy New year and Let us be guided by the new spirit of love for the New Year.

The Prison Ministry Conference was Great, and successful. To God be the glory for the things He is doing through Rev. Michael Smith in Prison Ministry.

As of this writing Shaw Divinity School is doing well. The new programs that have been implemented are going well. Let us support our Dean.

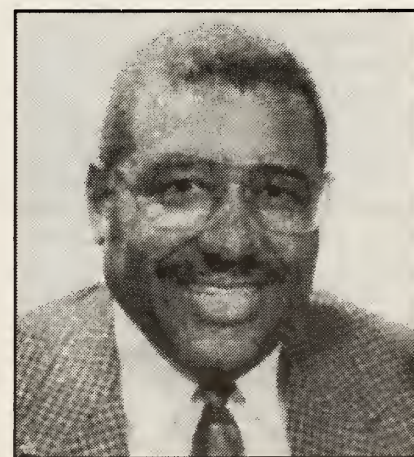
Shaw University is doing fine, and can always use your support.

As we begin the New Year, let us commit ourselves to help make this school Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School the best.

God has blessed us with a wonderful institution in the heart of Raleigh as well as the heart of Carolina.

To all the Baptist Family, Pastors and Churches, Please put the schools in your budget for the New Year.

Paul writes to the church at Corinth, if any man be in Christ, He is a New Creature, old things have passed away and behold, all things have become new. Let's start



Rev. N.T. Davis

the New with a New Spirit and Attitude.

Let us put our trust in God, He knows what we need. The needed resources for this age is already here.

Let us share them and put them where they are needed.

The past few years things have been plentiful. God has taken care of us.

Let us be thankful and bless his name. I will bless The Lord at All times, His Praise shall always be in my mouth. The Lord is Good, His Mercy endureth from generation to generation.

Two thousand and two will be a year of lay offs, down sizing, but the work of the Lord will increase.

If you need a job, God's vineyard is still open. He will pay for what is right and may God bless you all.

2002 GBSC YOUTH ORATORICAL CONFERENCE

REACHING THE MASSES ~ John 12:32

June 26-29, 2002

Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, NC

Congress of Christian Education

Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC

Dr. Archie Logan Jr., Executive Secretary Treasurer GBSC

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Contact Person: Ms. Lula Gainey • (910) 485-6752

SENIOR DIVISION

The Senior Division is opened to:

RIISING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AS OF JULY 1, 2002 ONLY:

The contestants should be active in their local church and Sunday school. To be valid, the application must be signed by the Superintendent of their Sunday school and President of their Convention.

Each contestant will choose his/her topic from the approved list, compose and memorize his/her speech. Bring one copy of your speech with you and give it to the director of your participating Division.

At least FOUR minutes but no more than FIVE minutes will be allowed for each contestant's Oration. If your speech is less than FOUR minutes or more than FIVE minutes you will be penalized five points. All contestants will be judged by competent judges on the following:

Personal Qualities	20 points
Material Organization	30 points
Delivery and Presentation	30 points
Overall Effectiveness	20 points

SENIOR DIVISION TOPICS— 2002

1. Reaching For the Gold
2. The Excellency of God
3. Fruits of the Spirit
4. People of Courage
5. The (Man/Woman) in the Mirror
6. God's Word: The Ultimate Truth
7. Anchored in the Lord
8. Serving God in this Present Age
9. Knee-Power
10. Christ Alive In Youth in Changing Times

STATE DIVISION AWARDS

All contestants in the Senior Division will receive a Certificate of Participation. Winners will be awarded the following:

First Place	\$500, A Plaque
Second Place	\$300, A Plaque
Third Place	\$200, A Plaque

JUNIOR DIVISION

The Junior Division is opened for:

Students entering Ninth, Tenth or Eleventh grades as of July 1, 2002. They should be active in their local church and Sunday school. To be valid, the application must be signed by the Superintendent of their Sunday school and President of their Convention.

Each contestant will choose his/her topic from the approved list, compose and memorize his/her speech. Bring one copy of your speech with you and give it to the Director of your participating Division.

At least FOUR minutes but no more than FIVE minutes will be allowed for each contestant's Oration. If your speech is less than FOUR minutes or more than FIVE minutes you will be penalized five points.

All contestants will be judged by competent judges on the following:

Personal Qualities	20 points
Material Organization	30 points
Delivery and Presentations	30 points
Overall Effectiveness	20 points

JUNIOR DIVISION TOPICS — 2002

1. Yield Not To Temptation

2. Stand Up For Jesus
3. Changed, Challenged and Charged
4. Can I Get A Witness?
5. Satisfied With Jesus
6. The Highest Calling
7. Pressing Toward The Mark
8. Jesus Never Fails
9. Serving the Lord with Gladness
10. Living a Christ-Centered Life

STATE DIVISION AWARDS

All contestants in the Junior Division receive a Certificate of Participation. Winners will be awarded the following:

First Place	\$200, A Plaque
Second Place	\$150, A Plaque
Third Place	\$100, A Plaque

ALL STATE AWARDS WILL BE MAILED DIRECTLY FROM THE PARENT BODY OFFICE. ONLY ONE CONTESTANT FROM EACH DIVISION WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE FROM EACH ASSOCIATION

PREPARATORY DIVISION

The Preparatory Division is opened to: Students entering Sixth, Seventh or Eighth grades as of July 1, 2002. Each contestant will choose his/her topic from the approved list, compose and memorize his/her speech.

Bring one copy of your speech with you and give it to the Director of your participating Division.

Each contestant will choose his/her topic from the approved list, compose and memorize his/her speech. Bring one copy of your speech with you and give it to the Director of your participating Division.

At least THREE minutes but no more than FOUR minutes will be allowed for each contestant's Oration. If your speech is less than THREE minutes or more than FOUR minutes you will be penalized five points.

All contestants will be judged by competent judges on the following:

Personal Qualities	20 points
Material Organization	30 points
Delivery and Presentation	30 points
Overall Effectiveness	20 points

PREPARATORY DIVISION TOPICS — 2002

1. Jesus Loves Me
2. Walking in the Light
3. Respect
4. The Power of Faith
5. The Lord Is My Shepherd
6. Jesus the Light of the World
7. Create in Me a Clean Heart
8. Thy Will Be Done
9. Our Father
10. Building Upon A Firm Foundation

STATE DIVISION AWARDS

All contestants in the Preparatory Division receive a Certificate of Participation.

Winner will be awarded the following:

First Place	\$100, A Trophy
Second Place	\$75, A Trophy
Third Place	\$50, A Trophy

(ALL ORATORICAL DIVISIONS)
REGISTRATION FORMS DEADLINE IS:

MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2002

NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

NEA President Says Inadequate Parental Involvement Is Major Obstacle To True Education Reform

Teachers and Families Urged to Fight "Sleeping Tigers" of Race and Diversity, Time Crunch, and Poor Parenting to Help Children

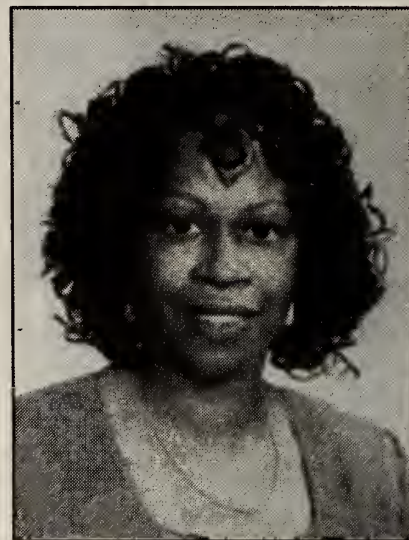
Submitted by Carol J. Smith
Associate Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — National Education Association President Bob Chase has challenged teachers, education employees, families and community members to come together to overcome what he called the "sleeping tigers" getting in the way of ensuring a quality education to every child. Citing poor parental and family involvement in America's public schools, Chase said that the emotionally-charged issues of race and diversity, the time crunch, and poor parenting must be addressed if educators are to truly help children succeed.

Returning to the National Press Club podium for the third time since becoming president of the nation's largest union, Chase acknowledged that parent and family outreach efforts across the country are "still in the pioneering stage in many school districts," and cited this lack of involvement as why "we are still coming up short" in education improvement. Chase noted that "racial, ethnic and class differences are a reality in our society," saying that, "if we pretend they do not exist, and do not deal with them, we will never forge the powerful teacher-parent alliance that every child deserves." He urged administrators to provide mentoring and professional development programs that help teachers better connect with students and parents of different — and often distant — cultures.

To help address the issue of busy parents and lack of time, Chase called for every employer to provide two additional hours per month paid leave to meet with their child's teacher or volunteer at their child's school. "It is not enough to tout family values," he said. "We must value families. And if that means higher labor costs, so be it."

The NEA leader praised efforts to Encina High School in Sacramento, California, whose campus houses separate programs to assist families living in poverty. Young children, teens, and parents have access to education and counseling services, and health care assistance is provided



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

by members of the NEA local affiliate. "Public schools should be the hub of communities," Chase said.

"Parent and family outreach is sometimes seen as only a feel-good program," the NEA President said, "but it has real, measurable impact. Every school needs to rethink everything it does," Chase said. "From parent-teacher conferences to homework. School must be a welcoming, helpful, and totally open place."

President Chase challenged NEA members to take the lead in building parent and family involvement in America's schools. "This is teacher's work, it is the work of every school employee, and it is union work. It is what we must do if we are going to educate every child to the fullest extent of his or her abilities. I urge our local unions to make parent and family involvement one of their top priorities when bargaining their next contract."

Remembering the terrible events of September 11, Chase closed his address by noting the vital role teachers played in helping students deal with their feelings and fears in the aftermath of the attacks, and praised parents for resolving to spend more time with their children, and less time on things "that now seem far less important — like the office. Teachers and parents — we're two peas from the same pod. And if we work together, there is no telling how much our children will achieve."

Outgoing NCC President Andrew Young Honored At Reception

Submitted by Carol J. Smith

OAKLAND, CALIF. — Members of the National Council of Churches' General Assembly participated in a reception the evening of Nov. 14 that honored Ambassador Andrew Young, who is completing a 2000-2001 term of office as the Council's president.

NCC General Secretary Bob Edgar thanked the Rev. Young for his contributions to the "continuing task of bringing people together," not only as the Council's president, but also as a young NCC staffperson in the 1950s, as a civil rights leader at Martin Luther King Jr.'s side, as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations during the Carter Administration, as mayor of Atlanta and in many other capacities.

The Rev. Young, a United Church of Christ minister who has been a part of the Council at points throughout its 52-year history, said that the organization originally "grew out of the una-

nimity of the call to social justice."

But in recent decades, he reflected, its member churches have divided between and among themselves, particularly on issues of gender and sexuality. Yet, "we are still challenged to speak to the world," he said, and "slowly but surely we find that voice by coming together as churches."

September 11 set a context for the churches and the nation that "is more evil than I have ever known in my lifetime," he said. "We struggle as a nation to contain that evil." What may be getting lost in that struggle, he indicated, is the impact of all the events in the wake of September 11 on the poorest and most vulnerable people. The Rev. Young said he lives with "fear and trembling that we are under the judgment of God...because we are not considering the poor enough. It is the element of justice that we have to face."

NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

Elenie K. Huszagh Is Installed As NCC President For 2002-03

OAKLAND, CALIF. — Elenie K. Huszagh of Nebalem, Ore., an attorney and a prominent lay member of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, was installed Nov. 15 as 21st president of the National Council of Churches.

She is the first Orthodox woman and the first Orthodox lay person to hold that office. The installation took place at a special service of vespers (evening prayer) at Oakland's Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Ascension, with some 600 in attendance.

Among the Greek Orthodox dignitaries from around the country who attended the service was Archbishop Demetrios, the spiritual leader of the United States' two million Greek Orthodox. He came from New York to participate in the service.

Before delivering the sermon, the Archbishop remarked that the "majestic service in this venerable church" marks "the changing of the guard at the National Council of Churches as for the first time a lay person from our Orthodox Church becomes the president." He pointed to Ms. Huszagh's high qualifications, in particular her "constant, indefatigable way of working and offering. She's always eager to assist."

The brief installation ceremony featured the passing of a cross and chain from the outgoing president to the incoming one. Ambassador Andrew Young of Atlanta, Ga., the NCC's president in 2000-2001, placed the cross and chain around Ms. Huszagh's neck at the moment of the "declaration of installation."

"Elenie, you bring your training in law,

your love as a mother and wife, and the history, heritage and wisdom that comes from this glorious and magnificent Greek Orthodox tradition," said the Rev. Young, a United Church of Christ minister.

Also installed at the ceremony was the NCC's new president-elect, Bishop Thomas Hoyt of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, a resident of Shreveport, La. The Rev. Dr. Hoyt will serve as NCC president in 2004-05, but as president-elect is already a Council officer.

The installation ceremony incorporated the reading of a message of "congratulations and fraternal greetings" from His All Holiness Bartholomew the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople. The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America falls under the jurisdiction of the Patriarchate.

Music was provided by the Oakland Bay Area Choir under the direction of Dr. Tikey Zes and by Ms. Anna Marakis Counelis, organist. Participants in the choir came from 11 area parishes.

Following the service, those assembled moved into a festive reception and banquet featuring Greek music and food. Among special guests bringing greetings were the Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco, who noted the National Council of Churches' "historic role in ecumenical dialogue, common witness and action for justice" and the challenge of interreligious dialogue "as key for the peace of nations."

In her remarks at the banquet, Ms. Huszagh noted that "in all of recorded history and most likely before, people have

divided themselves into an 'us' and a 'them.'"

It starts early, she said. The first "us" is "our family" and "them" is everyone else. Nations also divide themselves into "us" and "them," usually considering "us" and "them" bad. Within nations, people of other races, religions and ethnicities also get defined as "them."

"The National Council of Churches has never seen the world this way," Mrs. Huszagh said. "Our contribution has been to say that we are all created in the image of God."

She continued, "Anyone of us can become a 'them' for any reason at any time" recalling particularly the detention of Japanese Americans during World War II. "On September 11, a new 'them' entered our life. But these are shadowy figures, all over the world..."

Ms. Huszagh urged her listeners to reject making Muslims the new "them," saying, "No religion, including Islam, supports terror or killing. We Americans must not demonize them to justify whatever actions we might take. We must act to provide a more secure and peaceful life for all."

First Baptist Church To Sponsor College Day

First Baptist Church will sponsor its Seventh Annual College Day on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2002, in the Multi-Plex Building of the church located at 302 Moore Street from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Nearly 40 colleges, universities, community colleges throughout North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Ft. Bragg Smoke Bomb Hill Education Center, and the Naval and West Point Academies have been invited to disseminate information about their institutions.

All high school students and their parents in the Cumberland County School System and surrounding area schools are invited to attend this program.

This College Day is unique; it differs from the high schools college day events. Parents and guardians are invited, encouraged and expected to accompany their children. This gives the parents the opportunity to meet with representatives from the colleges and universities in which their children have interest.

Preregistration is encouraged. Students should register with their guidance counselor at their high school or their youth advisor at their church.

For additional information contact Mrs. Ruth Smith, 910-483-6505, Youth Ministry Director, First Baptist Church.

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NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

Governor Easley Appoints A New Martin Luther King Jr. Commission Chair

Submitted by Selena Crudup

Governor Mike Easley has appointed Rev. Dr. Thomas Walker as the new Chairman of the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission. The Commission was created eight years ago and its purpose is to encourage ceremonies and activities throughout North Carolina in observance of the Martin Luther King holiday. It also provides advice and assistance to local governments and private organizations in relation to the King holiday, as well as year-round activities regarding the philosophy of Dr. King. The Commission's mission is also to provide an awareness and appreciation for the life and work of Dr. King. One of the Commission's major functions has been to award mini-grants to organizations that promote the philosophies of Dr. King on a year-round basis.

Rev. Walker says, "I am honored to have been appointed to this post especially at this hour. The message of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King is needed more now than ever. Though he is dead he's yet speaking and he would have much to say about the events of September 11 and those events following."

One of the goals of Rev. Walker is to

New MLK Holiday Activity Planned

lobby the legislators for greater funding of the Martin Luther King Commission. The commission is only funded \$75,000 annually with over \$50,000 of that designated for grants for MLK activities throughout the 100 county area.

Rev. Walker has lead the commission to recognize the Rocky Mount Martin Luther King Memorial Park, which is currently the largest MLK park in the nation. He strongly supports the recognition of King's efforts throughout the state and the nation. The MLK Commission will host its Annual Bell Ringing Ceremony on January 21, 2002 at 10:30 a.m. on the Bicentennial Plaza at the Museum of History Building. Rev. Walker is proposing a statewide Bell Ringing Ceremony to take place at the 11 a.m. close of that ceremony. The Commission will be asking churches and communities to simultaneously ring a bell symbolizing the quest for universal peace, human rights, social and economic justice. Governor Easley has been invited to participate in the ceremony.

many talents he also holds several other positions. Currently he serves as chairperson of the Edgecombe-Nash Black Political Caucus and P.R.I.D.E. (People Really Interested In Developing Equality). Some of his other activities include membership in the Rocky Mount Ministerial Conference and recording gospel music albums.

He is married to Joyce Norwood Walker, his wife of 35 years; and they are the parents of Rev. Timothy J. Walker and Attorney Teresa Walker-Mason. They have five grandchildren.

To All Missionary Baptist Churches In Columbus County

The Missionary Mass Meeting is the assembling together of all Missionaries — senior, young adults, youth, male and female.

Columbus County Mass Meeting is a part of Columbus County Missionary Union and the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina. Therefore, we encourage *all* churches to be present with representation fees so all missionaries in Columbus County can participate in this Kingdom Building Program.

All Missionary Baptist Churches within Columbus County are asked to have representatives present at this Mass Meeting so all Missionary Baptist Churches in Columbus County will become a part of Columbus County Missionary Union and Mass Meeting.

The topic will be: "Reaching The Family Through Effective Leadership, Accountability, Commitment, Dedication" (John 12:32 and Joshua 26:15) Senior: Evangelist Bobbie Dewitt; Young Adult: Sister Priscilla Lance; Youth: Brother Iran Ward — 3 to 5 minutes.

The Sermon will be delivered by Rev. Timothy Lance, Pastor of Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church of Whiteville, North Carolina. Music will be furnished by Mt. Olive Church Choir.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, January 5th, 2002 at New Light Missionary Baptist Church of Hallsboro, North Carolina — Time 10 a.m. Lunch will be served. We need your full cooperation to make this Mass Meeting a success!

Yours in Christ — Gloria Key

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NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

The Rev. S. Manfred Isom Installed As Pastor Of First Missionary Baptist Church of Selma

By Erma G. McDougle, Reporter
First Missionary Baptist Church,
Selma, N.C.

An installation service for Rev. Sebron M. Isom was held Sunday, Nov. 11, 2001, at 4 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

The Rev. Dr. W.B. Lewis, choir, officers and congregation of First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church of Raleigh were guests.

Deacon Matthew Sherrod Jr. of FMBC served as the worship leader. The Rev. William A. Headd, pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church in Smithfield, read the scripture and the Rev. James Utley gave the prayer.

The W.B. Lewis Gospel Choir sung beautifully, appropriate selections throughout the service. Councilwoman Jackie Lacy of Selma FMBC gave the statement of purpose.

Councilwoman Lacy stated that the church would continue to be a dynamic force in Selma under the leadership of the new pastor.

Words of greetings were given by the following: Deacon B.L. Williams, FMBC, Rev. J. Vincent Terry, Henry Blackley, mayor-elect of Selma.

The Rev. Luna Abernathy introduced the pastor, the guest minister, Dr. W.B. Lewis. Dr. Lewis' text came from the 14th chapter of Paul's second letter to the Corinthians and his subject as "What The Church Needs Most."

Dr. Lewis alluded that the church

needed: spiritual gifts, committed born again Christians and a spirit of brotherhood. Dr. Lewis reviewed the great heritage of the church (FMBC) in which we were rooted and grounded in love and truth. He mentioned the late Dr. A.B. Johnson as a "pillar-pastor" who served over 30 years.

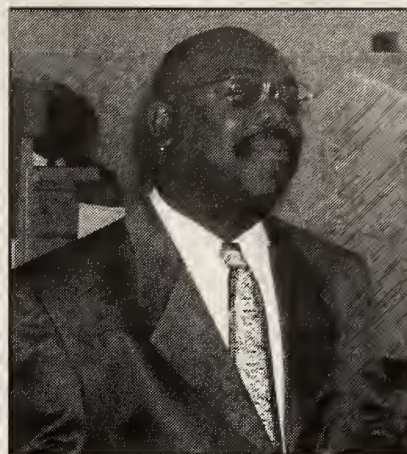
In Dr. Lewis' final remarks, he concluded that the attributes of sharing our gifts, commitment and brotherhood would help us to survive as a viable church.

He further admonished for us to continue to strive for unity — walk together and pray together. He reminded the body of faith of the importance of praying for the Rev. Isom that God would bestow upon him spiritual foresight and insight.

Dr. C.R. Edwards, who served as interim pastor gave the charge to pastor Isom. Rev. J. Vincent Terry gave the charge to FMBC members. The Rev. Sebron Isom, father of newly elected pastor rendered a fervent prayer of installation. The theme of Rev. Isom's prayer was "togetherness." Pastor Isom and family, Charlene, wife and children Charese and Jamal were presented to the congregation.

Following the presentation of gifts to the pastor the Rev. Nathaniel Wood played and sung a soul stirring musical meditation. Following the benediction, a meal was served in the fellowship hall.

The pastor graduated from Shaw University and Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., with a Masters of



Rev. Isom in a happy pensive mood.



Pastor S. Manfred Isom and wife Charlene Isom.

Divinity degree. Presently, the Rev. Isom is completing a doctoral program in Race Ethnicity and the church in Washington, D.C. He has pastoral experience in both Virginia and Tennessee. Rev. Isom has also had additional work experience with the Congress of National Black Churches and Shaw University. He is a member of the National Baptist Convention, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and Prince Hall Masons Widowson Lodge in Raleigh.

Rev. Isom is a young spirit-filled minister, who has accepted the formidable task of leading (FMBC) of Selma to higher ground. It is with a strong assurance that God will bless the union between our church family and our new pastor.



Dr. Edwards served as Interim for FMBC.

Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church Installs New Pastor

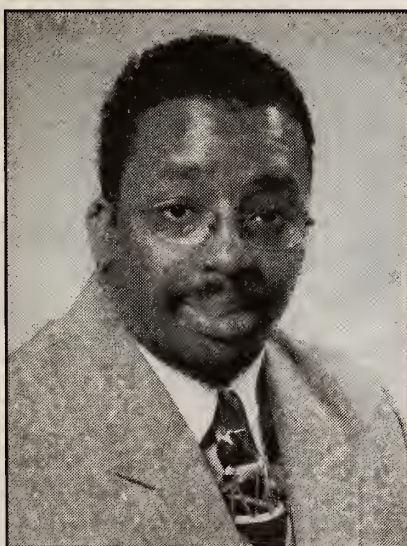
D. Shawn Briggs is a native of Plainfield, New Jersey, later relocating to Petersburg, Virginia. He is the son of the late Mabel Lee Briggs.

Rev. Briggs is a 1983 graduate of Petersburg High School, furthered his education through Matriculation at several Institutions; Florida Memorial College, Miami, Florida, The Community College of the United States Air Force and Triune Biblical Studies, a Masters Degree in Theology and an Earned Doctorate Degree in Ministry. He has earned several CEU (Continuing Education Units) to his credits from several Institutions.

Rev. Briggs served as the Moderator of the Unity Fellowship of Churches and as the Assistant Secretary of the Minister's Conference of Buckingham County and Vicinity. He also served as the First Vice-Moderator of the Unified Shiloh Baptist Association.

President of the Young Pastors and Ministers Department of the Virginia Baptist State Convention Former Assistant Secretary and Executive Board Member of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Young Pastors and Ministers Department. He also served as Secretary of the Emporia/Greenville Ministerial Alliance, Executive Board Emporia/Greenville Habitat for Humanity, Planning Committee for the First Chaplain's and Ministers Visitation Program at Greenville Memorial Hospital.

Rev. Briggs is the Author of the Sold Out Book, "Communicating Your Passion"



Dr. Shawn Briggs

Brentwood Christian Press 2000 and the President of Stay Blessed Community Development Corporation.

Installation Services for Rev. Dr. D. Shawn Briggs, Pastor of Mount Zoar Missionary Baptist Church, 2423 Cheek Road, was held on Sunday, December 9, 2001. The Rev. Warren T. Anderson, Pastor of Altha Grove Baptist Church of Forrest, Virginia delivered the 11 a.m. message with music by a Special Guest Choir. The Rev. Leroy M. Mitchell III, Senior Pastor of the Historic Brookville Baptist Church of Lynchburg, Virginia also delivered the 4 p.m. Installation message along with his Choirs, Ushers and Congregation.



Dr. W.B. Lewis at the Rostrum, Rev. Sebron, M. Isom, center, father of Pastor and Rev. S. Manfred Isom and W.B. Lewis Gospel Choir.



Dr. Edwards gives charge to Pastor and Mrs. Isom.



Deacon Matthew Sherrod Jr. presents gifts to Pastor Isom.

VACANT POSITIONS

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- Be a licensed, Ordained Baptist Minister.
- Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study.
- Must be able to work with all age groups.
- Strong knowledge of Baptist Doctrines, church policies and procedures.
- Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider an experienced associated pastor.
- Must have Spiritual maturity, and be able to preach and teach the Word of GOD.
- Willingness to administer communion and perform Baptismal service.
- Possess strong and proven administrative experience.
- Divinity school degree preferred, but will consider a combination of education and experience.

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- Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families.

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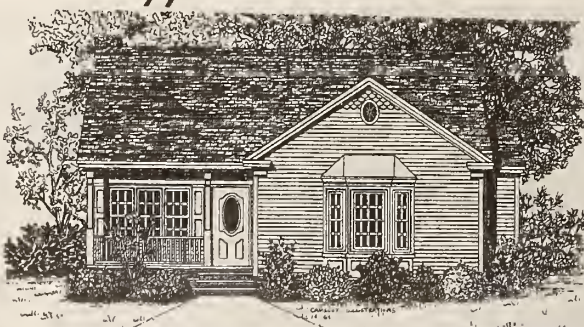
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VACANT POSITIONS

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PO Box 644/601 Pine Street, Oakboro, NC 28129

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Galilee Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. The minimum qualifications are desired for consideration:

- ordained Baptist minister
- be able to work well with church, promoting Church agenda
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Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is a small rural church that has services every Sunday. We seek a sincere, dedicated, humble, honest Christian minister as our shepherd. Please send your resume to the following address:

Mr. Richard Moore, Chairman

The Pulpit Committee

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 7. Radio Preacher, Evangelist, Bible Teacher
 8. Member of the School Board Advisory Committee
 9. Academic training in Counseling especially "Family Counseling"
 10. Ability to work with all age groups
 11. Wife is a University graduate with a B.S. Degree in Education and completing her work on a Master of Education, also a Public School Teacher
 12. Married for 25 years, have 4 children and is 44 years old
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- Must possess strong administrative, organizational and leadership skills.
- Must possess strong moral values.
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Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience
2. A copy of college degree, certificate of license and ordination
3. Name, address, and telephone number of (1) business and (3) personal references — excluding relatives.

Please mail all requested information for review to:

c/o Pulpit Committee

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- Leadership Skills

Other Services Include:

Mortgage Referral Partnership
Pre-qualification for ... church loans

MEMBER APPLICATION

Member: _____

Account #: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Employment: _____

SSN/TN: _____

Driver's License: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____

Eligibility for Membership: _____

ACCOUNT TYPE

- ☐ Share (savings)
- ☐ Share Certificates
- ☐ Christmas Club
- ☐ Loan
- ☐ ACH, Direct Deposit
- ☐ Payroll Deduction
- ☐ Other

Your Account is

Special Recognition for New Participating Groups
and Organizations

For More Information

Gateway's staff is dedicated to providing you with the best service possible. To inquire about becoming a member of our community development credit union, please contact:

Operations Manager: Thomas Spence
at **Gateway Credit Union**

314 South Garnett Street
Gateway Building, Suite 10
Henderson, N.C. 27536

Business (252) 492-5854 or Fax (252) 492-7832

VACANT POSITIONS

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:
Attention: Trustees
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

Notice: Pastor needed at Star of Zion Church, New Bern, N.C. 28562.

Submit application to:
Pastor Selection Committee
2101 Chestnut Ave.
New Bern, N.C. 28562

The Center Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC is currently seeking a "Minister of Music" who is able to work well with a diverse group of singers including youth. Must be able to play keyboard, piano, and organ. Must be dependable and have good moral character. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to Center Baptist Church, Attention: Personnel Committee, POB 550064, Gastonia, NC 28055 or fax cover letter and resume to Personnel Committee at 704-824-7683.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:
Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343 CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.
Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.
Musician requirements:
*Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
*Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
*Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.
Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.
REQUIREMENTS:
1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.
SALARY NEGOTIABLE:
Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.
Requirements:
*Plays the organ and piano *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
*Experienced in all sacred music *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear
Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road
Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.
I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:
A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
B. At least 3 years of experience as accomplish/director for choral group(s)
C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
D. At least 3 church-related references
II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS
A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

Qualifications
Born Again Christian
Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
Seminary Training preferred
Teaching Bible Study Weekly
Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
Pastoral Experience Preferred
Family Oriented
Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs
Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:
Pastoral Search Committee
First Baptist Church
ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman
P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:
I. Missionary Baptist
II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
III. Commuting Distance
IV. Family Oriented
V. Experience Preferred
Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee
St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

Senior Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a historical and traditional Missionary Baptist Church located in Greensboro North Carolina.

Organization:
Shiloh Baptist Church, 1210 South Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina
Shiloh Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking to identify a righteous individual of God's choosing to minister the people. Shiloh members require that the person called to minister and pastor at Shiloh will preach, teach and proclaim God's Word. The members require that the person exemplify Christ like character in his daily living, be honest, of high integrity, compassionate and loving in caring for others. Shiloh members require that the person has a spiritual commitment to the Body of Christ and is knowledgeable and versed in the instruction of Biblical Scriptures.
Qualifications:
• Four Year College or University Degree and Seminary Degree.
• Ordained minister rooted in traditional Missionary Baptist Doctrine.
• Minimum of Five to Ten Years of Pastoral experience preferred.
• Proven and administrative skills.
• Consensus builder.
• Spiritually mature.
• Family Oriented.
Contact Information:
Please submit by February 10, 2002, a letter of interest, Biographical Sketch and Resume to:
Shiloh Baptist Church
Attn: Steve Allen, Pulpit Committee Chair
P.O. Box 20048
Greensboro, NC 27420

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890
The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:
Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890
Applicants must have the following qualifications:
• Born again Christian
• Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
• Preach quality sermons
• Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
• Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
• Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
• Some college and seminary training preferred

Pulpit Vacancy

The pulpit committee of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants should possess the following qualifications:
Must be a born-again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called minister with strong family and community values.
Must be a licensed Missionary Baptist minister.
Must be able to preach and teach Bible study.
Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
Must have experience as a senior or associate pastor.
Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.
Must possess strong and proven administrative skill and experience.
Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.
Must be a just and fair individual and possess tact.
College degree is preferred but will consider any combination of education and pastorate experience.
Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church.
Resumes should be sent to:
The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chair
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909
elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

VACANT POSITIONS

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

US Hwy 158, Macon, NC 27551, Warren County • 252-257-5570

Is Seeking A Pastor

The pastor search committee of Second Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications and responsibilities.

Qualifications:

- * Born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called, with strong family and community values.
- * Be a licensed, Ordained Baptist Minister.
- * Must be able to preach and teach Bible Study.
- * Must be able to work with all age groups.
- * Strong knowledge of **Baptist Doctrines**, church policies and procedures.
- * Experienced as a senior pastor, but will consider an experienced associated pastor.
- * Must have Spiritual maturity, and be able to preach and teach the Word of GOD.
- * Willingness to administer communion and perform Baptismal service.
- * Possess strong and proven administrative experience.
- * Divinity school degree preferred, but will consider a combination of education and experience.

Responsibilities:

- * Plan, prepare and deliver sermons.
- * Visit and commune with sick and shut-in members and bereaved families.

Interested candidates please submit resume to:

Ms. Sylvia Dunston, Church Secretary, Rt. 2, box 13 A, Warrenton, NC 27589, (252) 257-0221

ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GOLDSBORO, N.C., INC.

601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530 • (919) 735-2176

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, with a membership of approximately 200 members, is seeking a full-time pastor.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
2. Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
3. Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
4. Council members having personal, family and/or work related problems
5. Support religious programs for children, youth and adult.
6. Develop and instruct weekly Bible Study Classes and directing the Bible Study and Sunday School Staffs
7. Support the church's financial program
8. Involve the congregation in the existing church programs and ministries.
9. Meet regularly with the chairperson of the Deacon, Deaconess, Trustee Board and other Auxiliaries of the church
10. Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
11. Preside at funerals and weddings unless the families have someone else of their own choosing
12. Support the World Mission of the church
13. Share in the civic leadership of the community

QUALIFICATIONS-EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

SAVED AND FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ. Degree in Theology/Religion preferred. Ordained and at least five (5) years experience as a pastor of a **MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**.

Interested candidates should send a resume with a cover letter to:

Pulpit Committee

c/o Kirby L. Hamilton, Chairman

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Goldsboro, Inc., 601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530

P.S. Please include a copy of your credentials (Ordination Certificate and License)

Baptist Grove Church

7109 Leesville Rd., Raleigh, NC 27613

919-787-4528 • 919-787-9784 Fax • Baptistqc@aol.com

Baptist Grove (a predominately African American congregation) is accepting resumes for a Full Time Youth Minister.

Principle Functions

- Provide youth and volunteer leadership
- Plan, conduct and evaluate programs
- Provide youth Christian education

Qualifications

- Licensed Baptist Minister
- Strong program planning and implementation skills
- Excellent communication skills, (presenting, writing, active listening)
- Ability to effectively interact with all age levels

To apply, send resume and cover letter to:

Baptist Grove Church, Attn. Personnel Committee, 7109 Leesville Road, Raleigh, NC 27613

PHILLIPS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, NC, is currently seeking a senior pastor, spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume no later than December 15, 2001.

The successful candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- Must be born-again, spirit filled, divinely called minister with strong family and community values.
 - Must possess the willingness to follow by the By-Laws governing the church.
 - Must have a knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures and be willing to follow such.
 - Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
 - Must have significant experience as a Senior Pastor.
 - Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Religion, Theology, or Divinity from an accredited college, university or divinity school.
 - Must be willing to work with all age groups with particular interest in the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
 - Must be able to develop and share a vision for the future growth and development for the church.
 - Must visit and commune with sick, shut-in and bereaved families.
- All applicants should provide the following information:
- Copy of college degree(s), certificates of license and ordination
 - Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training
- Name, address and telephone number of (4) personal and professional references with no more than (2) coming from other ministries

All materials should be forwarded to:

Dr. Ernie Wade

Chairman, Pulpit Committee

Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

132 N. Glenn Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC 27105

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a **MINISTER OF MUSIC**.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- * Must be a born again Christian.
- * Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- * Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- * Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- * Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- * Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- * Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- * Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- * Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- * Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m.

Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave., High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor, 909 Barbee Avenue

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
 2. Pastoral experiences is required.
 3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
 4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
 5. Must be able to preach and teach.
 6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
 7. Family oriented.
 8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
 9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
 10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.
- Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Femald Rawls, Jr., 920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas. Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

The "Reason for the Season" Is Here!

VACANT POSITIONS

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2504 Creech Road, Raleigh, NC 27610
Rev. William H. Brock Sr., Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Leo Williams Jr., Assistant Pastor
Rev. James Richardson, Minister of Youth

Growing young Missionary Baptist Church in southeast Raleigh, Seeking a Christian Church Musician who can play piano/organ. Specifically organ. Must be able to read music as well as play by ear. Should be able to play hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospel.
Call church office to arrange interview (919) 828-8373.

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ, Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589 Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church 414 Hadley Street, Wilson, NC 27893

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor to serve as a spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. Ebenezer is a progressive church with a vision of growing in grace and walking with the Lord. We seek a Pastor with this same vision and passion, who is capable of leading our congregation to a higher realm.

All interested candidates please submit resumes and inquires to:

Ebenezer Search Committee, Attention: Deacon Ronald Wright
PO Box 351, Lucama, NC 27851 • 252-239-0097

(Applications will be mailed upon request)

Qualifications:

- Ability to preach and teach
- Ability to relate to all groups
- Willing to deliver morning services on 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays
- Affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention
- Theological or Seminar Training
- Pastoral Experience of one year

CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

- Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers.
- Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.
- The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

MUSICIAN WANTED Metropolitan Baptist Church Rocky Mount, NC

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

Metropolitan Baptist Church
Rocky Mount, NC
252-442-4623

POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF DURHAM

is seeking a person to serve as musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

- Should be able to play the piano and organ.
- Work well with diverse range of singers.
- Experience in diverse music (Hymns, gospel, contemporary, traditional).
- Ability to read music and play by ear.
- Be available for scheduled rehearsals, Second Sunday Morning Worship Service.
- Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church engagements as scheduled.
- Be available for evening programs as scheduled.

Interested persons may send resume to:

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, 4610 Fayetteville Rd.
Durham, NC 27713, Attention: Sis. Esther Thompson or Call 544-8596

MINISTER OF MUSIC • ST. MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH P.O. BOX 1710, OXFORD, NC 27565

1. Must be a Christian to serve as minister of music each Sunday.
2. Will prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and special services.
3. Will teach and direct hymns, spiritual selections and other sacred music.
4. Will implement and/or carrying out guidelines pertaining to choir members' conduct.
5. Will rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
6. Will be available to accompany the Pastor and choir to church functions requested.

Please send resume to the above address: Attention Pastor. Inquiries may be made by calling 919-693-6354.

GENESIS BAPTIST

Youth Minister needed full-time.

Qualified candidates must be trained at a seminary, mature spiritually, and experienced working with children and youth. Mail or fax resume and salary requirements to:

Genesis Baptist Church
Cathy Daniels-Lee, Search Committee Chairperson
2812 E. Bessemer Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405
Ph. (336) 379-1133 • Fax. (336) 379-1615
Web site: www.greensboro.com/genesis

VACANT POSITIONS

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- 1. Spiritual maturity
- 2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
- 3. Administrative and leadership skills
- 4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
- 5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
- 7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
- 8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman, Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563, % The Pulpit Committee

SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
- 2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
- 3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
- 4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
- 5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
- 6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
- 7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
- 8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest or resume

Copy of license and ordination certificate

Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church

ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church

Route 1, Lake Wendell Rd., Wendell, NC 27591

The Lee's Crossroads Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested, ordained Baptist ministers. Please include the following in your resume:

- 1. Name/address/day and evening phone numbers
- 2. Age
- 3. Marital Status
- 4. Education/Schools attended
- 5. Pastoral Experience
- 6. References

Qualifications

- 1. Born again Christian
- 2. Ordained Baptist Minister
- 3. Ability to preach and teach God's Holy Word
- 4. Possess leadership and administrative skills
- 5. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrine
- 6. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct

Resumes may be sent to:

Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church, Pulpit Committee

Deacon James R. Adams, 1342 Medlin Rd., Clayton, N.C. 27520

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- 6. References

Qualifications:

- 1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- 2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
- 3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Policies and Procedures
- 4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- 5. Family oriented
- 6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

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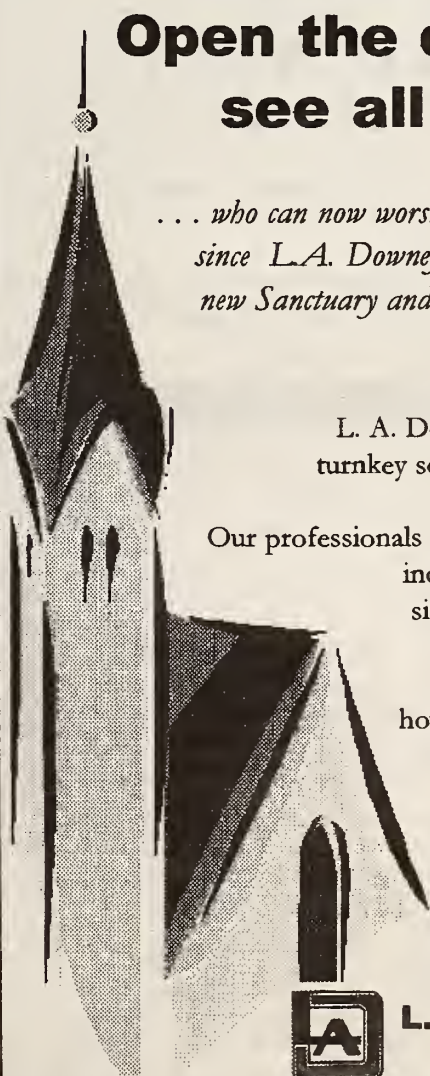
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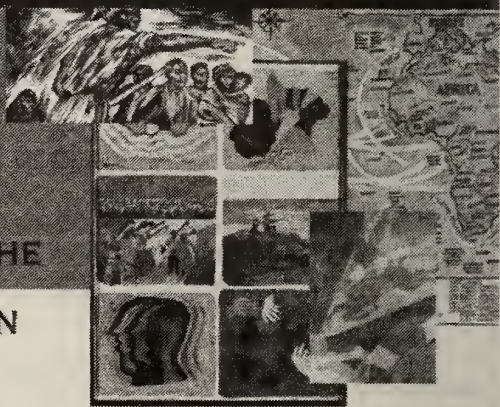
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Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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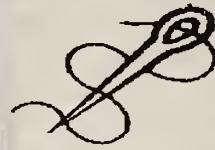
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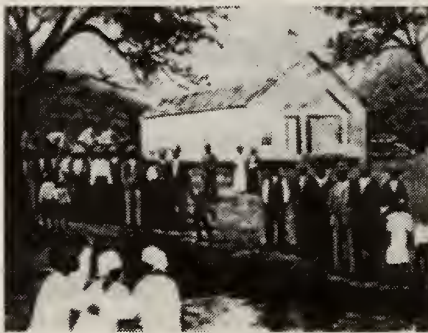
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Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

January 2002

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"The Challenge Is The Same: Reach The Masses"

John 12:32

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OUR 135TH YEAR

BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 125, Number 2

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.
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February 2002

Greetings in the matchless name of our risen Savior!

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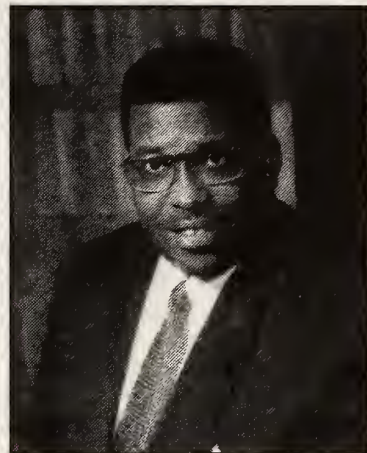
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From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Rev. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

The Millennium Stewardship Campaign 3 Million Dollars in 30 Months From Clearing House to Kingdom Station

By Dr. W.B. Lewis

We have outlined our work at the present time, and where we must go to maintain our MISSION/MINISTRY/MES-SAGE! We must have your prayers and support. This initiative will be the greatest and largest in GBSC, Inc. history. We must move our work from clearinghouse to Kingdom station. The funds received from this campaign will be used to build the infra-structures for the expanded GBSC, Inc. programs.

INTRODUCTION

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina leads the African-American Faith-Based Community in MISSION/MINISTRY/MESSAGE. It is important that we continue to set a clear VISION of what God has called us to do as a Convention and how our SPIRITUAL AGENDA must proceed. We face several critical needs: The need for a new Baptist Headquarters Building; the J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Project; Disaster Relief; and the restoration and building of a solid infrastructure for the GBSC, Inc. These needs are outlined in our "Campaign Vision."

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

Dr. W.B. Lewis, Past President GBSC, Statewide Coordinator Mrs. Liz Young, Past President Congress of Christian Education, Statewide Coordinator.

Executive Stewardship Campaign Council

Made up of GBSC Past Presidents, Auxiliary Past Presidents, Current GBSC Officers, and Moderators of our 62 Associations.

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Waynesville Frank T. Blount

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Mountain & Catawba Darryl McConnell
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Guiding Light Davis S. Houston
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Middle District Andre Cary
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Hammond Creek Charles R. Parker
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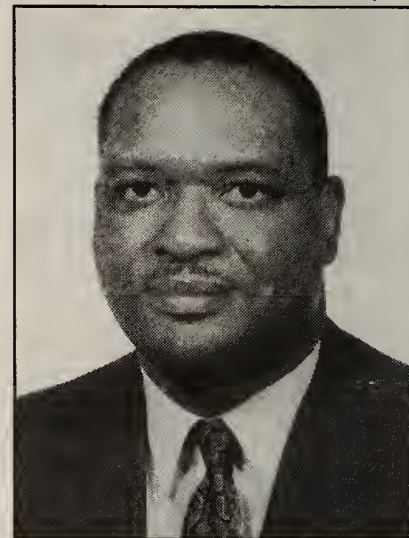
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Hyde County Herman Young
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Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

East Pamlico River Charles L. Smith
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By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

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Fifth Street, Raleigh, NC**ONE-DAY USHER'S CONVENTION****February 23, 2002**M.C. Benton Convention and Civic Center,
Winston-Salem, NCHOTEL: ADAMS MARK, 425 N. CHERRY STREET,
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From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

Don't Forget, to Remember

By Rev. Dennis Leach BS.M.Div.

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat this is my body which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup I the new testament in my blood; this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come (1 Cor. 11:23-25 KJV).

When it comes to Biblical personalities that loom large on the Christian doctrinal horizon, the Apostle Paul stands head and shoulders above the rest. Those writings commonly attributed to him have given to the Christian world great theological insight into the unfathomable depths of the mind and heart of God. His theological propositions can be both simple and complex. From the salvation formula offered in Romans 10, to his dissertation on prophesying, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit in 1 Corinthians 14, Paul was on the cutting edge.

There was never a time that the Apostle wrote that he did not seek to be relevant, and significant in addressing church issues, such was the case with the Corinthian church concerning the Lord's Supper. At their request I recently conducted a workshop for the Hammond Creek Association on the Lord's Supper, or the Eucharist. The following information is what I shared with the Hammond Creek Association.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper, also called Communion or the Eucharist, is the second ordinance (or sacrament) that Baptists believe Christ established and is therefore to be observed by churches until the end of time. Like baptism, it is a ritual of simple but deep symbolism. Perhaps even more than baptism, it has a powerful and shaping effect on its participants. Because of its central significance in the theology and practice of church life, it has historically been the focus of heated and bitter controversy among Christians. Indeed, definitions regarding the nature and practice of the Lord's Supper have been at the center of most divisions in the church, even among Baptists.

Institution of the Lord's Supper

Communion is based on the celebration of a Passover meal between Jesus and his disciples on the night before his betrayal and arrest (Matt. 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22: 14-20). Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "For I received from the Lord what I also delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same manner also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" (1 Cor. 11:23-26). The Lord's Supper is so situated in the scriptural narrative of the passion and death of Jesus as to be a point of transition. At the meal, Jesus shared in fellowship and worship with his disciples; following the meal, Jesus was arrested and began his anguish as the Paschal Lamb "being led to slaughter." Because of this, Baptists have generally believed that Jesus established the meal as a symbolic reminder of his role in salvation and as a communal event by which first his disciples and later believers could be bound with him forever.

The Administration of the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is observed in a variety of ways among Baptists; in the structured formality of a worship service; informally as an

aspect of a church "spiritual retreat" or other gatherings; as a part of a service of ordination or installation of a pastor; as a ministry to the sick to remind them of the healing power of Christ and of the strength of the fellowship to which they belong, or to the dying as a reminder of their continued participation in the fellowship of Christ, whether here or in the life to come. In all circumstances the symbols are the same: memorials of Christ's body and blood, shared by believers to commemorate his sufferings and death and to show their continued faith, participation in sacrifice, and hope in Christ's continued life and presence.

Generally it is the pastor who presides at this symbolic meal, serving the bread and the cup to others. After some form of the words of institution have been spoken, a single prayer or separate prayers of thanksgiving are offered for the bread and the cup. When deacons are present, the pastor passes the plates and cups to them to be served, in turn, to the congregation. In a symbolic gesture of service, the pastor may also serve the deacons when they have finished serving the congregation. Then, when all have been served, the pastor leads the congregation in receiving first the bread, then the cup, by speaking an appropriate word of invitation. Guidance for appropriate words and prayers to be used, as well as orders of service for Communion, can be found in many service books, including A Manual of Worship, New Edition by John E. Skoglund and Nancy E. Hall.

Whether the Lord's Supper is served in great formality or in an informal circumstance, it should be conducted with dignity and reverence. In many Baptist churches a special offering is received following the Lord's Supper — one usually dedicated to the service of the needy in the community or for a specific mission or outreach purpose. The service is then closed with a familiar fellowship hymn, following the precedent of Jesus and the disciples in Matthew 26:30: "And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives." The hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" has become a tradition for many congregations.

The Obligation of the Lord's Supper

It is a sacred privilege for every Christian to participate in Communion. Jesus, in his observance of the meal, said, "Take eat...drink of it, all of you" (Matthew 26:26, 27). To fail to participate is to be disobedient to his commandment, "Do this in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19). It is unthinkable that a Christian would desire to neglect participation in this meal, except for unavoidable, extreme circumstances. Likewise, no person should approach the table of the Lord's Supper casually, for to do so is to diminish and disrespect its significance.

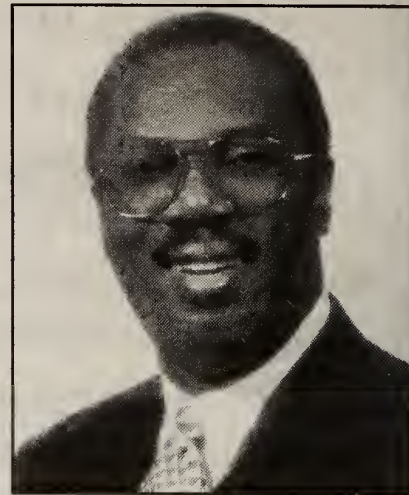
Participation in the Lord's Supper

Almost universally, Baptists encourage only those who are Christian believers to participate in the Lord's Supper. Few churches, however, make a clear effort to prevent its participation among those who are seeking clarification of their faith but who are not yet baptized or members of the church. Most churches do not encourage children to participate, believing that until a child has grown to maturity sufficient to deliberately regard baptism and church membership, sharing in Communion might diminish its ultimate value for them.

There is, however, a larger issue concerning participation at the table. Among Baptist churches there has historically been a division between those who practice "open Communion" and those who practice "closed Communion." Open Communion is practiced by churches that permit anyone who desired to share in the meal and who believes himself or herself to be qualified to come to the Lord's Table without question or condition. In such churches, those present that are members of other Baptist


churches, other Christian churches or communities, and even those who belong to no specific denomination are welcome to participate. Behind this practice is the belief that the desire to participate in the fellowship of the Lord's Table is itself a confession of faith and that only Christ and the participant are able to determine whether it is effective for their spiritual well-being.

In churches that practice closed Communion, on the other hand, the Lord's Supper is restricted to immersed believers who are members in good standing of a Baptist church. In some cases it is restricted at least to those who have been baptized by some means, if not immersion, in a Christian church, while in others only those who have been baptized by immersion as adults are invited. The strictest form of closed Communion is practiced in churches where the Lord's Supper is offered only to those who have been baptized by immersion in that particular church. This most strict observance is associated most often with the Landmark Movement in the South and lower Midwest, but has other adherents as well. In general, the practice of the most restrictive forms of closed Communion has diminished in recent years.



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

In considering whether to practice open or closed Communion, churches should carefully consider the degree to which a closed Communion enhances the significance of church membership and the intensity of fellowship. This benefit must be balanced against the degree to which it separates the church from fellow Christians of other churches or isolates some who are seeking the presence of Christ and prevents them from drawing near.



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Women's Page Highlights

When Love Shines In

By Executive Secretary Treasurer
Brodie

Jesus comes with pow'r to gladden, When love shines in. Ev'ry life that woe can sadden, When love shines in. Love will teach us how to pray, Love will drive the gloom away, Turn our darkness in-to day, When love shines in.

How the world will grow with beauty, When love shines in, And the heart rejoice in duty, When love shines in. Tri-als may be sancti-fied, And the soul in peace a-bide, Life will all be glo-ri-fied, When love shines in.

Dark-est sor-row will grow brighter, When love shines in, And the heav-iest bur-den light-er, When love shines in. 'Tis the glo-ry that will throw Light to show us where to go; O, the heart shall blessings know, When love shines in.

We may have un-fad-ing splendor, When love shines in, And a friend-ship true and tender, When love shines in. When earth vic-t'ries shall be won, And our life in Heav'n begun, There will be no need of sun, When love shines in.

Chorus
When love shines in,...When love shines in,...When love shines in, When love shines in, When love shines in...How the heart is tuned to sing-ing, When love...shines

in,...When love shines in,...When love shines in, When love shines in, When love shines in,...Joy and peace to oth-ers bringing, When love shines in...

Mrs. Frank A. Breck

February usually is known as the love and Afro-American History month. How great a little word is L-O-V-E only four letters. Yet without it life and situations perish, but with it life and situations flourish abundantly. Real love begins with God, for it is written, "God is Love." When the world (all life, inclusive of Adam and Eve), at first was created by God, all was well because love prevailed. Adam and Eve loved God (kept His Word) and loved each other. In this environment all living creatures lived together in harmony. However, when man and woman began not to love God (failed to keep His Word), they ceased to live sinlessly and in harmony; other living creatures began to live in disharmony, and the ground became infested with thorns. What a change in life because of the lack of love for God (disobedient to His Word). Yet the season, Christmas, out of which we have come reminded us that God is at work in Christ regarding reconciliation and restoration where His Love again will prevail. What a wonderful change "When Love Shines In!" When love shines in, all American contributions are recognized, even Afro-Americans'.

Because of the love of God and love for people many of you came to the One-Day Session, and we are very grateful. In the love of God, do continue to carry out the mission of winning and nourishing souls for Christ in terms of giving sacrificially, supporting, praying, worshipping, teaching, preaching, fellowshiping, forgiving, using Christian communication. Let us help love shine in this new year of missions endeavors. **To God Be The Glory!**

Reminders

1. Budget: Quotas have been sent to churches to help realize the mission's budget. If churches (circles) have not received a quota, please write the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of WBH&FMC immediately. **Our 2001-02 Budget (\$801,357) includes: Shaw University — \$49,500.00 Shaw Divinity — \$33,500.00; Foreign Missions — \$80,200.00; Central Children's Home — \$36,500.00; Baptist Assembly — \$40,500.00; and State Missions — \$561,157.00.** Please send contributions to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, N.C. 27602, and make checks or money orders payable to Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention.

2. Self-Denial Envelopes — Please write to the Woman's Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, N.C. 27602, in order to re-



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

ceive these.

3. Housing Reservations Forms for the 118th Annual Session of the Woman's Convention in Winston-Salem, July 2002, are now available from this office.

4. 2002 Lott Carey housing reservations forms may be secured from this office also.

5. State-wide Leaders' Workshop — Pre-registration for the State-wide Leaders' Workshop, April 6, 2002, is \$5; on-site, \$6. If you have not received pre-registration forms, please contact the office immediately. Pre-registration deadline is March 15, 2002.

"And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God." Eph. 3:19.

Food Drive To Be Held On Saturday, April 6, 2002

To help supplement the food supply of North Carolina, the Woman's Convention will sponsor a food drive on Saturday, April 6, 2002, during the Leadership Workshop, here at the Raleigh Convention and Civic Center.

This food drive will be coordinated by the Young Adult Department; however, we are asking all departments to bring non-perishable food items on that day. We solicit all types of non-perishable food items (be sure to monitor the expiration date). Food should include all types of can goods (vegetables, fruit, soup, beans, etc.), breakfast cereals (hot and cold) and dry goods such as pasta and rice. Please do not bring any items in glass containers.

Upon arriving at the Raleigh Convention and Civic Center, please drop off your food items at the front entrance. If you have large amounts of food, please drop off your food, prior to parking your vehicle. Young Adults will be on the outside to collect your food items and place them in containers provided by the Food Bank of North Carolina. These items will be placed in large food containers between 8 a.m. and 12 noon. The Food Bank of North Carolina will pick up the food containers at noon. If you are not planning to attend the leadership workshop, but live in the Raleigh area, you can drop off your food item in front of the Civic Center. Young Adults will meet you at your car to receive your items.

We are requesting that each District Conference Chairperson, assist us in spreading the news of bringing these items

on Saturday, April 6, 2002. Please have this information included all newsletters in your church, auxiliary, county/city, associations and district conferences. Also, we plan to announce the Food Drive on local radio stations in various areas.

Our goal is 2,000 pounds of food; therefore, we are encouraging you to tell others about this outreach project. If each of one of us brings at least one pound of food (most cans of food weigh from 14 to 16 ounces each), we can fill the containers. Each container provided by the Food Bank will hold 500 cans of food.

If you have questions or would like someone to remind you to bring the non-perishable food items on April 6, 2002, please contact one of the Young Adult Officers or Directors Gregory or Judd, so that we can make arrangements to have a Young Adult Officer in your area pick up the food items. If you know that you will not be able to attend on April 6, 2002, please purchase the non-perishable food items and ask a friend to bring it for you.

We are excited about this outreach mission project. We have already asked God to guide us in reaching across the State of North Carolina. James 2:15 & 16 "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warned and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC • 2002 CALENDAR

FEBRUARY (Prayer Month for NATIONAL MISSIONS)	
MARCH	
31	Easter
APRIL	
6	Statewide Leaders' Workshop, Raleigh Civic Center
MAY	
4	Ministers' Wives and Widows Spring Retreat
JUNE	
1	Young Adults' Retreat
3-7	Leadership Training Conference, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
9-14	First Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
16-21	Second Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
22	Missions Prayer Day (County Unions, et. al.)
23-28	Third Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
JULY	
28-Aug. 1	Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Winston-Salem
AUGUST	
	(Prayer month for THE FAMILY)
24-31	Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention, New Orleans, La.
SEPTEMBER	
2-6	National Baptist Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.
28	Family Missions Conference, First Baptist, Oxford
OCTOBER	(Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)
12	WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters
NOVEMBER	
2	Youth Evangelism Conference, Halifax County Union, Host
4	World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)
15	Shaw University Founder's Day Convocation
15-17	Ministers' Wives and Widows Fall Retreat
28	Thanksgiving Day
DECEMBER	
25	Christmas Day

MORE WOMEN'S NEWS

By Sisters Mary B. Godfrey and Earlene Waldron

Saturday, December 8, 2001, the Missionaries of District Ten, Group 2 held their final meeting of the year at the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, located in the Weeksville Section of Elizabeth City, N.C. Rev. Charles L. Sizemore is pastor. Mrs. Audrey P. Battle, 2nd Vice President of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of NC, was the special guest. Sister Maxine Spence, Co-chair presided over the session.

Devotional leader, Sister Evelyn Montague, opened with a very spiritual devotional period wherein prayers, songs, and testimonies by the group set the tone for a spiritual filled meeting. The welcome was extended by the Pastor, Rev. Sizemore, who emphasized that Missionaries, must be about God's work, in terms of setting examples for our youth and speaking the truth.

Local Circle Presidents gave reports of

Renewing Of Your Mind

their auxiliary's accomplishments during the year. Then Mrs. Battle was introduced by Sister Mary E. Sharpe.

Mrs. Battle began her message with a statement and a question. "Jesus is leading us, Are we following?" Her theme was "Renewing of your Mind" — Romans 12:1-2. Much emphasis was placed on the following points:

1. We have a lot of work to do on the home front.
2. We are responsible for what goes on in our community.
3. Things have changed but our goals and motives have not.
4. Our job is to motivate and enlighten the loss.
5. We are God's disciples. We should be committed to learning.

6. We serve a God too great to be in the shape we find ourselves.

At the beginning and at the end of Mrs. Battle's message she gave out handouts emphasizing: only what you do for Christ will last; prioritize our lives; have a retrospective view; plot where we plan to go with Jesus.

At the conclusion of Mrs. Battle's message, she installed officers for 2002/2003.

Chairperson: Sister Mary B. Godfrey
Co-Chairperson Sister: Maxine Spence
Secretary: Sister Earlene Waldron
Assistant Secretary: Sister Minnie Herring

Treasurer: Sister Jean Ferebee

Worship Leaders: Sisters Lenora Spence and Margaret Smith, and Brother Robert Smith

Executive/Planning Committee: Sisters Lillie Perry, Gladys Lister and Rosetta Williams; Chairperson, Co-Chairperson and Secretary

Field Workers: Sisters Nora Etheridge, Mildred Hunt, Rosetta Williams and Willie M. White

Instructor: Sister Mary E. Sharpe
Musician; Sister Olga Etheridge

The Installation Prayer was given by Pastor Sizemore.

The youth department of Union Chapel sang two selections and gave a presentation "Silent Night."

The meeting was closed out by Minister Judy Sizemore, First Lady of Union Chapel, with words of encouragement and a solo.

Benediction and Blessing of the food was by Pastor Sizemore.

The group exchanged Christmas cards, which was followed by a Christmas luncheon.

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Start The New Year With Hope and Prayer

By Romas L. Hales

It is with prayer and hope that you have settled into the New Year without obstacles and problems. It is also with hope and prayer that you have made your plans and program for the New Year and that they include attending and participating in all State Laymen activities.

Perhaps you have given it some thought and have asked the question, "What Does God Want Me To Do In 2002?" Here are a few things that God may want you to do in 2002.

Pray and read your Bible daily. Have

at least a twenty minute devotional time every day to grow in Christian maturity.

Reach out to unchurched and unsaved people. Share your faith and bring a new person into the fellowship this year.

Give 10% (the tithe) to the Lord. Give 10% more financially to the Lord in 2002 than you gave last year. Give the Lord more of your time and service.

Worship every week and share in the Holy Communion when it is served.

Commit yourself to specific areas of service in the church and participate in Sunday School, Laymen's League, Bible Study

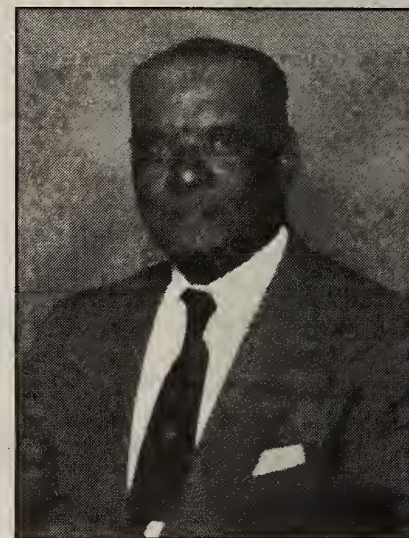
and other activities of the church. This is a portion of your reasonable service to God.

Foster a team spirit. Work together enthusiastically, join or organize a Laymen's League and enjoy the fellowship.

Do not conform to divisive worldly patterns, such as jealousy, envy, ill will, negativism, or anything else that may disrupt or hinder your work for Jesus Christ.

Pray for and support the State Laymen's League and strive hard to attend all of the Calendar of Events.

You will be receiving information on all of the Laymen activities prior to their meeting times. Please schedule your local programs so they will not conflict with the



Romas Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

state Laymen dates. We need you attendance and support.

May God continue to bless you.

Laymen's League 2002 Calendar of Events

March 9, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen's League Study Commission Meeting First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
April 12, 2002	7 p.m. Laymen's Mid Annual Banquet New Prospect Baptist Church Sherrill's Ford, NC
April 13, 2002	8:30-9:30 a.m. Registration 9:30 a.m. Session Laymen's Mid Annual One Day Session New Prospect Baptist Church Sherrill's Ford, NC
May 18, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen Mini-Skills Exhibit J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
June 8, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen's Study Commission Meeting Genesis Baptist Church Greensboro, NC
July 10-11, 2002	First Retreat Laymen and Boys Summer Retreat J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
July 12-13, 2002	Second Retreat J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
July 15-16, 2002	Laymen Annual Session Martin Street Baptist Church Raleigh, NC
Aug. 23-25, 2002	Laymen Scouting Camporee J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
Sept. 14, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen's Men Retreat J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
Dec. 14, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen's Study Commission Meeting Jones Chapel Baptist Church Laurinburg, NC

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2002 ELECTION NEWS

Gilchrist Announces Candidacy For Vice President at Large

Rev. Jimmy L. Gilchrist officially announced his candidacy for the position of Vice President at Large of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated for the 2002 election.

Rev. Gilchrist is a native of Fairmont, North Carolina, and presently residing in Lumberton, North Carolina. He graduated from the former Rosenwall High School in 1964, Shaw University in 1968, and Shaw Divinity in 1981. Rev. Gilchrist accepted the awesome responsibility as pastor of St. John Baptist Church in March 1979 at the age of 32. For the past 23 years, he has led St. John in promoting the Christian growth to a higher degree.

Before coming to St. John Baptist Church, Rev. Gilchrist pastored the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in St. Pauls, North Carolina and Antioch Baptist Church in Proctorville, North Caro-

lina.

Membership are as follow: First Baptist Church in Fairmont, North Carolina, NAACP, North Carolina Court Counselor Retiree Association, and Golden Leaf Lodge #124.

Past experiences are as follows: Vice Moderator of the Pee Dee Association, served as chairman of the Political Action for Robeson County Black Caucus, President of the Ministerial Board of the Lumber River Baptist Association, elected in 1986 as Historian for the General Baptist State Convention, and served as the Chairman of Robeson County Board of Elections.

Rev. Gilchrist retired from the 16th B Juvenile Justice Division as a court counselor on June 1999 after thirty (30) years of service.

He is the editor and publisher of The Tri-County Times newspaper, President of the Robeson County Black Caucus

and Moderator of the Pee Dee Missionary Baptist Association.

Rev. Gilchrist feels that the time has come for new leadership in the convention to represent all churches, pastors, preachers and members.

My Goals and Objectives:

- To continue to support the Unified Plan, State Missions, Foreign Missions, Shaw University, Shaw Divinity School and the Central Orphanage.
- To promote the evangelistic services that those who are lost might be saved.
- To promote an economic stability. Our communities are economically declining and we need to be concerned with economic development.
- To promote a Credit Union, we need to control some of our money and low interest loans to our people.
- Our convention has been talking



Rev. Jimmy L. Gilchrist

about building a new Headquarters for years, now is the time to erect a new Headquarters for the Baptists of the State of North Carolina.

Rev. Gilchrist is married to Carolyn G. Gilchrist. They are the proud parents of one daughter, Miranda.

Parker Seeks First Vice President's Position

Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr., who currently serves the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina as the Second Vice President, is formally announcing his candidacy to become the First Vice President of GBSC in the upcoming election which will be held in Fayetteville in October 2002.

Parker began serving in presidential positions during the administration of Dr. Clifford A. Jones Sr., as Fourth Vice President, and as Third Vice President and Second Vice President in the administration of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

As Fourth Vice President, Parker represented the GBSC at the Central Children's Home in Oxford where Mr. Michael Alston serves as the Executive Director. Parker is currently a member of

the General Baptist Board of the Central Children's Home which serves children throughout North Carolina in a loving, safe and spiritual manner — addressing all issues in conjunction with the needs of children.

As Third Vice President, Parker worked with Dr. Talbert O. Shaw, President of Shaw University, Mrs. Elizabeth Young, who was President at that time of the Congress of Christian Education of GBSC, and members of the GBSC Laymen League to begin developing a written study guide for churches of the GBSC which was to cover a number of topics for Higher Education and for Christian Education.

As Second Vice President, Parker has worked with Dr. David Emmanuel

Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention and his staff to report to the GBSC news, activities and the engagements from the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention through the Baptist Informer.

As First Vice President, Parker will be responsible for keeping before the GBSC the needs of State (Home) Missions. State Missions for the GBSC covers items such as Evangelism, Church Mission, Church Extension and Building, Institutional Ministries, Support and Interpretation and Interracial Cooperation.

Before Dr. Parker served in the presidential positions of the GBSC, he worked with the Health Committee, the Baptist Foundation, served as Exhibit Chairman and as a member of the General Board of



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

the GBSC.

For the last twenty years, Parker has served as Pastor of Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville. He is married to the former R. LaVerna Grantham of Goldsboro and they have two children, Kelly Madison and Andrea Rochelle.

I ask for your prayers and for your vote as I seek to fulfill this position.

A Celebration of Home Going For Mrs. Edith I. Reynolds

Edith I. Wilson Reynolds, 90, a life long resident of Asheville died Friday, Dec. 7, 2001, at Mission St. Joseph's Hospital. She was born Feb. 19, 1911, and was the daughter of the late Willie and Maggie Williams Wilson. The Rev. Spencer Hardaway officiated. Interment was in Rock Hill Cemetery. Dr. Clifford Jones was in charge of the eulogy.

Mrs. Reynolds was a faithfully committed member of Rock Hill Baptist Church where she was actively involved with the Sunday and Deaconess Auxiliary. She was a charter member of the local Deaconess

Council.

Those left to cherish her memory include four daughters, Betty Jean Fortune, Mary Virginia Carwell (Hosie), and Doris Reynolds of Asheville, and C. Brenda Jones (Clifford) of Charlotte; two sons, Hubert Reynolds (Elizabeth) of Atlantic Beach, Fla., and James Thomas Reynolds (Faye) of Asheville; a sister, Minnie Murphy of Morganton; three sisters-in-law, Almeta Wilson, Cordelia Wilson and Lily Wilson; 18 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren; nieces, and other relatives and friends.

A Journey Into Glory

Life isn't a destination; it's a journey. God is in control of every part of that journey into glory. On her journey, Edith walked arm in arm with God. He never let her go.

God has escorted Edith into glory. She now exist in a new place, a new time and a new reality. Her peace will be never ending. Her joy will be overflowing. Her heart will be forever rejoicing.

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Jude 24, 25

Submitted by Shavonne Darity



Love Commandment

Jesus says, loving God more than anyone else will lead us to do what is right. If we love God, we do not want to hurt God. Sin hurts God because He knows it hurts us. Loving God with all our heart, soul and mind helps us to say "no" to sin. It helps us to do what is right because we love Him. We worship Him and sing praises to Him because He is God and He loved us first. God's greatest commandment tells us to love Him with all our heart, soul, and mind. Obeying this commandment makes it easier to obey all the rest of the **Ten Commandments** He gave us in the Old Testament.

Love through the eyes of children:

I think love is some people you love. And I think love is when you love somebody so much.

And I think love is when a grownup loves you like a child.

Maiya Brown, age 6

Love is sharing.
Love is hugging.
Love is happiness.
Love is thanking God.
Love is praising the Lord.
Love makes evil do good.

Joshua Hill, age 7

Love

The greatest gift of love is Jesus. We should love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

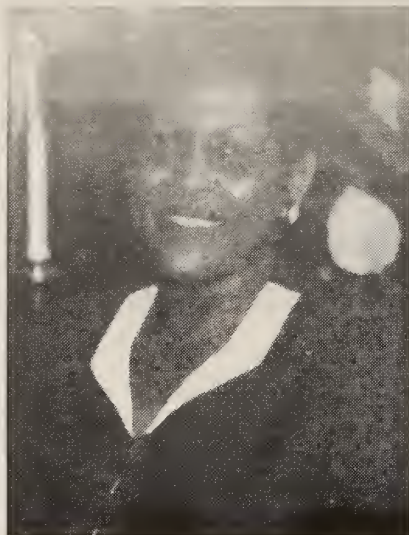
We love when we give of ourselves.

Love thy enemies.

Shelsea Goodman, age 6

Love

I have the power to move mountains. I give everything to the poor. I surrender my body to the burning flame, but I have not love so I am an impostor. Love is kindness, patience, helpful, forgiving and always being



Delores Griffey

the best person you can be. Always show love.

A.J. Hill, age 9

Love

Love is when you care for someone until you can't anymore. You would sacrifice things to be better in their life. If we didn't love one another there would be no reason to live. If there was no love, God would not have sent His Son down on earth to die for us. Everyday you say you love someone makes you a better person. What is love without each other?

LaShaunda Pratt, age 12

Love is when you love your mommy and daddy so much they can't hardly move without you.

Erica Pratt

A person who loves is patient and kind. He isn't jealous and doesn't brag. A person who loves is not rude or selfish. He does not become angry easily or remember when someone is mean to you. Love is not happy with bad, but is happy with good.

Napoleon Holmes, age 12

Love is the greatest gift of all because Jesus died for us.

Brandon Holmes, age 6

Father God,

I love you with all my heart. I want my soul (feelings) and mind (thoughts) love You no matter what happens in my life. Help me to love you first, others second and myself last!

In Jesus Name,
Amen

Tiara Pratt, age 9

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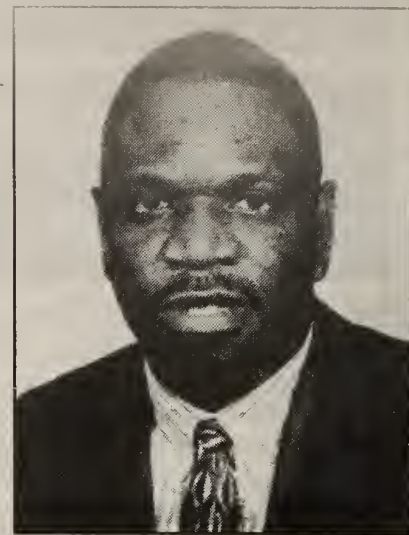
Submitted by
Dr. H.C. Miller
Chairman of Evangelism

Getting Ready To Get Ready

Greetings to the Great General Baptist State Convention.

Once again God has looked beyond our faults and blessed us with our needs. As Chairman of our State Evangelism work, let me sound the trumpet that the time has approached for each of us to "Get ready to get ready" for Conference 2002.

This year our Annual Conference will take place on the dates April 15-18, 2002, in the capital city of Raleigh, North Carolina. As these dates approach I ask the Con-



Dr. H.C. Miller

vention family to be prayerful for our upcoming Conference.

We are asking God to manifest His presence during this week in the areas of Salvation and Redemption. Stay tuned as we will keep you informed via this medium with Conference details.

Thank you for the privilege of serving in this awesome capacity and please continue with your faithful support and prayers.

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, M.Div.

To the churches in the General Baptist family:

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." {Galatians 1:3-5, NIV}

The New Year is now in full swing as time marches on. For some of us, it is back to "business as usual." For others, the New Year has provided the opportunity for new commitments, new goals, new objectives, and new challenges. My prayer is that we face these new opportunities with renewed energy, enthusiasm, and enlightenment. Along with these opportunities should come the joy of serving as a living witness for the Lord through total stewardship {Time, Talent, Treasure, and Temple [the body]}.

Note what Jesus declares in John 14:12: "...anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. (You) will do greater things than these, because I am going to the Father" {NIV}. Jesus actually declares that the believer will do "greater things...greater works!" Greater than what Jesus did? Greater works than Jesus who healed the sick, fed the thousands, raised the dead, and taught the masses? Greater works than Jesus who had compassion for the left out, the kept out, and the put out? Greater works than Jesus who loved the children? Yes...Yes...Yes...and YES! GREATER WORKS! Jesus said so!

Are we ready to join our faith, pool our resources, combine our efforts, lift our prayers, inspire our contacts, fulfill our stewardship, walk worthy of our calling?



Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, M.Div.

God performs these great works. Yet, God works through us. God blesses us with the means to get the work of the kingdom done. There is much "kingdom work" to be done at our Central Children's Home. Are we ready to glorify God by edifying others?

If so, please get on board with your gifts of stewardship (Time, Talent, Treasure, and Temple). Mr. Michael Alston and the "Home" staff are ready and willing to share with you the joys and challenges of this fruitful ministry. All it takes is your response to the call. Let us endeavor to bless the children with our willingness to serve. Take a few moments right now to contact the Central Children's Home or feel free to contact me at: (704) 637-0954 (church); (704) 637-1137 (fax); or E-mail AveryRevKin@aol.com

Remember that GOD WANTS YOU IN 2002! Let us strive to serve with A PASSION FOR GOD & COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE! "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" {2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV}.

Support the GBSC events!

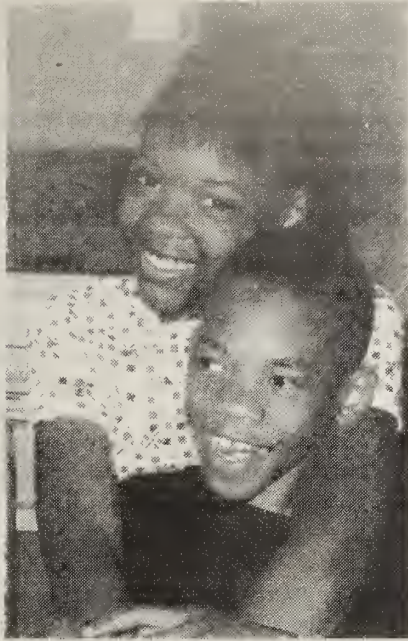
UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Introducing Angie and Jasper...

Both Angie and Jasper are intelligent, artistic and creative children. They are both nice looking kids and they are good at whatever they attempt to do. They also enjoy attending church and participating in church related activities.

A Closer Look at Angie...

Angie loves to listen to music, dance and sing. She loves to be current with fashion trends and takes care of herself and her hygiene with great care. Angie is a friendly, outgoing girl who loves social activities. She has a great smile and never has difficulty talking with new people. She is charming, affectionate and generally cooperative. Angie needs to work on controlling some of her behaviors. She has been diagnosed with several behavior disorders and is currently in a treatment center to help her deal with them. Angie's case worker at the center believes it would be very beneficial and positive for her adoptive parents



to undergo the attachment and bonding treatment with her to help her develop secure and healthy attachments. Birthday: August 14, 1988

A Closer Look at Jasper...

Jasper is an easygoing boy who adapts to new situations easily and quickly. He also catches on to new

things quickly and follows instructions well. Jasper enjoys playing sports, video games and educational games and activities. He is a likable and outgoing child who is generally polite and considerate of others. People often comment to the effect that Jasper is a neat and interesting little boy and what a joy he can be to have in their home. Jasper needs to remember that not all children are as strong as he is and that he can't always play as rough as he would like. He also needs to learn to discuss his feelings, rather than acting out. Jasper needs to work on always telling the truth and taking responsibility when he doesn't. Birthday: July 15, 1990

A Family for Angie and Jasper...

Though they are not currently placed together because of their treatment, Angie and Jasper very much want a permanent, loving home together. With structure, consistency, guidance and patience from a family willing to commit and be involved in their treatment, both Angie and Jasper would have the opportunity to lead healthy and happy lives. (NC #098-011) (NC #098-012) For more information on these children or adoption, in general, please call the NC Kids Toll Free Hotline at 1-877-NCKIDS-1 (1-877-625-4371).

WANTED!!

- ADOPTED PARENT
- FOSTER CARE PARENT
- VOLUNTEER ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ADVOCATES URGENT!

Please contact:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or
Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh,
NC 27610 • 919-231-9774; Fax
919-212-3656; or e-mail:
joepaigesr@aol.com or
dotteddem@maxxconnect.net

FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION NEWS

We urgently seek to identify persons interested in becoming Adoptive and/or Foster Care Parents in each of the 100 counties. There is an urgency. Every child deserves a loving and caring home.

Please contact at:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr.
Dorothy A. Demby-Paige
2610 Albemarle Avenue 27610
919-231-9774 • E-mail:
joepaigesr@aol.com

\$1,000 BONUS! BONUS! BONUS!

We have decided, as our special way to say "Thank You," to provide a personal bonus of \$1,000, to the first individual, church or association that recruits a minimum of 20 potential adoptive and/or foster parents each month for the next five months (August, September, October, November and December 2001.) or a total of 100 recruits (verified). Only one bonus of \$1,000 will be given. Persons interested in competing for the "bonus" should call, write or e-mail us!

Dr. Joseph C. Paige or Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige,
2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610; 919-231-9774;
Fax 919-212-3656; E-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

SHARE THE VISION WITH US!! HELP US SPREAD THE WORD THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. & THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Making A Difference in the Life of a Child

Finding Adoptive and Foster Care Homes for African-American Children

The North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children, a partnership with North Carolina Division of Social Services, is comprised of African-American congregations and community organizations from across the State, NAYKEL and the North Carolina Association of Black Social Workers committed to finding adoptive and foster homes for African-American children.

Yes, I'd like to do my part ...

Please complete and return to Dr. Joseph Paige.

I'd like someone to call me.

Please send me information about adoption. Please send me information about foster care.

I'd like to be a field worker.

☐ I am interested in being an adoptive parent. ☐ I'd like to be a county volunteer.

☐ I am interested in being a foster care parent.

☐ I'd like to be a church volunteer. ☐ Other (please specify)

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

City

State

Zip

County: _____

Contact Dr. Joseph C. Paige at 2610 Albemarle Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610,
919-231-9774, 919-618-8343, mobile • e-mail: joepaigesr@aol.com

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ministry of the GBSC State & Convention of N.C., Inc.

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

Greetings and Peace on the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to request your active participation and support of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care.

This Initiative is a cooperative partnership between the General Baptist State Convention and Human Services, Division of Social Services. Ours is an exciting and challenging journey, and a real opportunity to make a serious contribution to a real serious cause at this time.

The African-American Children's Initiative Adoption and Foster Care, as a cooperative church-based effort designed to help identify African-American single persons and couples who are interested in adoption African-American children or becoming foster parents to African-American children. This initiative is based on the fact that every child deserves a long, nurturing and caring home.

At the present time, there are many African-American children in the North Carolina Foster Care System, both boys and girls, who are currently eligible for this effort. The goal is to help speed up the adoption process. Time is of profound essence. There is also an urgency to identify potential Foster Care parents.

We are anxious to make a real difference within the next few months and we can do this only with your help. Volunteers will receive additional guidance from us on marketing strategies in your respective areas just as soon as I hear from you. In addition, we are in the process of soliciting and identifying volunteers to work with us throughout the state in the following categories, and we are requesting your assistance.

1. County Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one volunteer for each county).

2. Church Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer Coordinators (one per church)

3. We are also requesting Adoption/Foster Care Recruitment Volunteer coordinators to work with us at the town, city, and area levels, to help us spread the word that all children need and deserve a loving and caring home.

If you agree to serve as a volunteer or if you know someone who is willing to serve with us, write me today and mail it to me at the address below:

Dr. Joseph C. Paige, Chairperson

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

PO Box 24273, Raleigh, NC 27611-5273

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions (919) 231-9774. Or you can e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com or you can also e-mail me at JoePaigeSr@aol.com.

I look forward to working with you.

UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

By Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr. &
Dr. Dorothy A. Demby Paige

Greetings in the Blessed Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

I am pleased to share the **GOOD NEWS** with you that the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care is generally respected, nationally, by the various faith communities and by faith-based and community-based organizations, as a national demonstration model and leader for demonstrating some of the good things that can be done by faith-based and community-based collaboration and partnering with local, state and federal agencies in efforts to correct past injustices, reduce disparities, and promote the common good for all.

National, regional and state recognitions for a job well done is always a welcoming experience. It is a feel-good experience for all of us. It is good for our Convention. It is good for our state. It is indeed rewarding that agencies and organizations are now looking to us for guidance as they develop now the recruitment strategies in search of potential adoptive and/or foster parents.

The calls come from faith-based and community-based organizations all over the state — Fayetteville, Oxford, Charlotte, Hickory, Boone, Asheboro, Goldsboro, etc., just to name a few of our cities, and from all over the nation, South Carolina, New York, Delaware, Georgia, Texas, Pennsylvania, California, Illinois, Alabama, Michigan, Massachusetts, etc. — again, just to name a few. The messages of the callers all relate, with very few exceptions. The callers have all heard about the celebrated, much talked about, faith-based Adoption and Foster Care Ministry of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. through print or electronic media, word of mouth, or at a recent conference, and they want more information. Plain and simple, and to the point. "We are excited about what we hear you are doing," is a typical remark, "and we want to learn more."

"We want copies of some of your reports and handouts," the caller says, adding that "we're thinking about initiating a statewide adoption and foster care initiative in our state and from what we are told, the North Carolina model, the partnership between the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., and the Division of Social Services of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, is one of the best."

We get out-of-state calls each requesting information. "How did you get started?" others inquire. "We really want

to visit your program," others say.

"And you were operational long before President George W. Bush established the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community-Based Initiatives," others said.

Some of the more "gun-ho," truly excitable adoption and foster care advocates have even suggested that maybe the success of our much-talked about faith-based initiative in North Carolina, especially among faith communities at the state and national levels, just may have been the deciding factor in the President's decision to push the faith and community-based initiatives, nationally, reaching beyond partnering in adoption and foster care to practically all areas of human services needs.

We thank God and we PRAISE Him for His Continuing Goodness! He keeps on **BLESSING US!** And we thank God for you — our supporters and well wishes, our volunteers and partners, who, too, **believe as we do, that every child deserves a loving, caring, and nurturing home.**

And so, this month, Feb. 2002, as we enter the second month of the New Year, we want to again say **"THANK YOU,"** in a very special way to our partnering faith communities and to the cooperating faith-based and community-based organizations from around the state for your continuing organizations like you and a loving and caring God, that we are **now looked upon and generally respected** as the national model that we are.

STATE SUPPORT

Governor Easley encourages collaboration, partnering, and working together for the mutual good of our state. The Governor, calling "Adoption...an important option for families in N.C.," has encouraged the county Department of Social Services private adoption agencies, the faith communities and advocacy groups to collaborate and partner in an effort to achieve permanent adoption families, and to honor the families who have adopted. The Governor's is a champion advocate for children, and his advocacy makes it easier for all of us — the adoption advocacy field soldiers.

SECRETARY HOOKER-BUELL

Secretary Carmen Hooker Buell is one of the better known and most respected among Governor Easley's cabinet, and is well loved by all — beyond race and ethnicity, and by the faith communities and community leaders, statewide. And, as we have stated in earlier articles, the Secretary is always a hit with audiences around the state — somebody special, somebody en-

couraging and good to be around.

As one of our volunteers stated recently, "...bonding with the Secretary seems to be so easy and natural," adding that "I agree with you, she is so personable, so knowledgeable, and so dedicated — good to be around."

Some of our volunteers refer to her as "our Carmen — easy to relate to, easy to be around, a great credit to our state."

Our state, like the rest of the nation observed Adoption Awareness Month in November. Yet, some three months later, adoption advocates are still quoting the Secretary's remarks made at our **GALA KICK-OFF on the State Capitol grounds.**

In her remarks, as we reported earlier, the Secretary outlined the needs for more and faster placement of children with adoptive parents, and challenged all to join the campaign to help find loving, caring and nurturing adoptive homes.

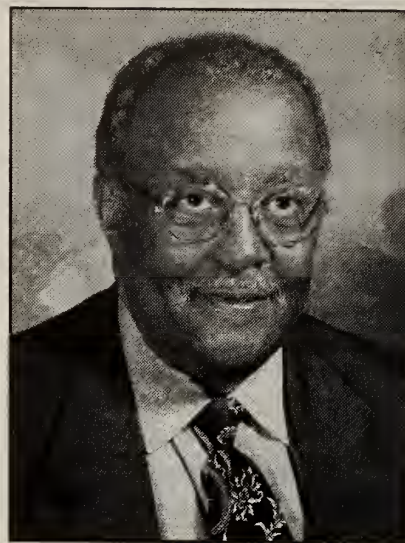
They are still excited about her presence and the fact that she remained with us throughout the program and lunch, even with her busy scheduled.

They are still talking about how she "chatted and mingled and thanked advocates while encouraging them to do more for the children, and to encourage others to open up their homes as well as their hearts as we strive to make a difference for children in North Carolina." And so again, we offer a special thank you to Secretary Hooker Buell, "who has a special unique knack for fitting in and for always being at home with other North Carolinians, wherever she is or may be."

BACKGROUND

In October, 1998, the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., an association of historically, African-American Missionary Baptist Churches, entered into discussions with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, Children's Services Section, to explore both the desirability and the feasibility of entering into a collaborative, supporting partnership for the express purpose of identifying African-American singles and couples, statewide, who may be interested in becoming foster parents and/or adoptive parents of children already in the North Carolina Foster Care System. The goal was to decrease disparities based on race in adoption and foster care practice among African-Americans.

This unique initiative was the brainchild, so to speak, of Rev. Gwen Horton, Director of Automation and the Adoption and Foster Care Unit of the Children's Services Section. Participants in the initial meetings and early planning, in addition to Rev. Horton, were Chuck Harris, Director of the Children's Services Section and Kevin Fitzgerald, Director of the North Carolina Division of Social Services. Dr. Clifford Jones, at the time, President,



Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

GBSC, and Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, GBSC, represented the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., former President, Executive Vice President, Dean, Provost, and Tenured Professor, Shaw Divinity School, and a longtime social political and religious activist, was invited by Dr. Logan and Dr. Jones to join the discussion. Dr. Paige was also President of the Franklin County Friends of Black Children, a county-wide adoption advocacy group.

It became evident early in the discussions that all signals were "go." Kevin Fitzgerald and Chuck Harris were in agreement with Gwen Horton and Doctor's Jones, Logan and Paige that the idea of a faith-based, community-based partnership was "on time," that it was needed, and that when operational, the initiative would emerge as a major positive and equalizer in the state of North Carolina in the advocacy of adoption and foster parenting among African-American.

As a result of our meetings, the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry was established, with statewide Advisory Committee named to help us get underway. I was named Co-Chairperson of the Ministry, with my wife, Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, as well as Chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

A. Phase I:

During the first phase of the INITIATIVE, the North Carolina African-American Children's Initiative — Adoption and Foster Care, PHASE I, January 1, 1999 to June 30, 1999, the mandate required the design and implementation of information, education and recruitment strategies, statewide, including administration and coordinator, utilizing the vast networking resources of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, in association with BRIDGES, Inc., a strategic community partner in this creative initiative.

(Continued on next page)

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Make a decision to change your life NOW!

PLEASE CONTACT US. WE WILL RETURN YOUR CALL!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

*The Rev. Dr. Joseph C. Paige,
passed from labor to rest Jan. 19,
2002. He was funeralized Jan. 23,
2002, in Raleigh, N.C. More information
in next month's Informer.*

MORE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

B. PHASE II AND CONTINUING PHASES

Phase II, continuing PHASE, hopefully, extending for 5-10 years or indefinitely beginning July 1, 1999, included an expansion of our efforts among General Baptists and the development and testing of new strategies and the development of a cooperative interphase with other faith communities (religious denominations) in the state of North Carolina, patterned after the GBSC model and tested during Phase I. Hence the birth of the North Carolina African-American Faith Communities United For Children: Adoption and Foster Care. I have served as Executive Director, since the founding.

THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR CHILDREN: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE BRIDGING THE GAP TO PERMANENCY

1. The North African-American Faith Communities United For Children: Adoption and Foster Care, is a voluntary coalition of clergy and laity representing African-American faith communities, community organizations and other interested persons and groups within predominately African-American communities, united to help bridge the gaps to permanency in the placement of African-American children in African-American homes headed by single African-American and/or couples. Operationally, the coalition is a collaborative united assault on the various barriers which seem to contribute to the disproportionate adoption rate among African-Americans when compared with Caucasians and other racial groups in North Carolina and in the United States, generally.

2. The organizational mandates are broad, and long-range, consisting mainly of advocacy, recruitment and referrals and related services.

THE GBSC ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE MANDATE

The mandate of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is two-fold:

1. To identify African-American singles and couples who are interested in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American Children already in the Foster Care System of the North Carolina Division of Social Services (NC-DSS).

2. To advocate, motivate and stimulate interest among African-American singles and couples of the various faith communities in becoming adoptive and/or foster parents for African-American children already in the Foster Care System of the North Carolina Division of Social Services.

EVERY MONTH FOR US IS...

For all of us at GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, every month is adoption awareness month. For us, every month is foster care awareness month. To us, our staff and volunteers, every month is one of celebration and praise, a time to take a serious look at the plight of our children — those in the North Carolina Foster Care System, and children in need of families and homes, nationwide. Every month, we make a special resolve not only to recruit volunteers and referrals, but also to join with others in helping to

make a positive difference in their lives. THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative, influenced after the successful Virginia pioneering effort, continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities, and again, we give God the glory and the praise. We will continue to push this initiative, statewide.

We are grossly encouraged and buoyed by the expressions of support by collaborating faith communities across denominational lines, and by community organizations.

EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE is a highly successful interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches that are uniting for children. This HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, elders, bishops, ministers and assorted church laity. Many church missionary departments have accepted this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2002, in addition to other on-going ministry priorities.

For assistance, please call, write or e-mail me: Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr., P.O. Box 25273, Raleigh, N.C. 27611; Phone: (919) 231-9774; Fax: (919) 212-3656; E-mail: adopt_children@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEERS

It is essential that we continue to expand our network of adoption and foster care volunteers, recruiting through our expanding church contacts, associations, and conferences of the various faith communities. We are especially grateful to the moderators, elders, and overseers of the various faith communities for their continuing support of our efforts and for the generous time and energy our volunteers give to our effort. Like us, our volunteers believe that every child deserves a loving, caring, and nurturing home and they are committed to helping make this happen.

Thanks again for your continuing support and encouragement.

We encourage African-American Faith Communities wishing to volunteer with us to write or e-mail me: Joseph C. Paige Sr., P.O. Box 25273, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Fax: (919) 212-3656; E-Mail: adopt_children@yahoo.com or dr.jc.paige@adopt-children.org.

Dr. Paige is former President, Dean and Tenured Professor, Shaw Divinity School, where he is now an Adjunct Professor. He is also an Adjunct Professor, School of Nursing and the Department of Nutrition, School of Public Health, UNC-CH. Dr. Paige is also former host of THE JOE PAIGE SHOW, a weekly NBC-TV Community Affairs Program (Channel 4, Washington, D.C.), and a columnist for several newspapers, including THE SANFORD HERALD (N.C.) He is also former president of the World Council on Religious Liberty (WCRL), and is pastor of the Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church, Bunn, N.C.

You may reach Dr. Paige at P.O. Box 25273, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Phone: (919) 231-9774; E-mail: joepaige@joepaigesr.com or joepaigesr@aol.com (use for general e-mail.)

A Message from the Director of Church Relations

Attention all African-American Singles and African-American Couples!

Bridge the gap to permanency through Adoption and Foster Care!

By Rev. Anthonette Wright

2001 is past and a new year has begun. Resolutions have been made that will either be kept or broken. There's one resolution that you can keep for life. All children in the North Carolina Foster Care System desire a loving, safe, nurturing home. Open your heart, your home and take time to make this a reality for someone. Lead by example and inspire other interested persons to become an adoptive parent or foster care parent. Foster strength in others by allowing a child into your home. People like you don't fear commitment, but welcome the opportunity to commit more.

The time is now, to do more for the children. I challenge you this year to make the difference in the life of a child in the North Carolina Child Welfare System. Start by making the first move to adoption or foster care.

North Carolina needs your help! Support this ministry by becoming an adoptive parent or a foster care parent and volunteer to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African-American Children. With your help, we can make a difference in the life of a child. Please contact me for more information on



Rev. Anthonette Wright

what you can do to help make a difference in a child's life. You may write me: Rev. Anthonette Wright
Director of Church Relations
211 Six Forks Road, Suite 209-B
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609
or E-mail me: Nwrightgbsc@aol.com
or telephone me: 919-754-8800

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the N.C. African-American Faith Communities United for Children: Adoption and Foster Care Finding Adoptive & Foster Care Homes For African-American Children

Touch a Life Forever ... ADOPT!

Children waiting for adoptive families are ...

- Sisters and brothers who want to be adoptive together
- Children who have experienced neglect, abuse or abandonment
- Older children who want a permanently family
- Children who need families who care and are willing to make a lifetime commitment

You can adopt if you ...

- Are single, married or divorced
- Can provide a stable home
- Have the ability to care for a child not born to you
- Are willing to take on the responsibilities, joys and challenges of parenting

Families who adopt ...

- May be homeowners or renting
- May have a fixed income
- May be an adult of any age

North Carolina Needs More Foster Homes

Thousands of children in North Carolina, ranging in age from infants to 18 years old, enter the foster care system each year. These children may have been neglected, abused, or abandoned and need a safe place to stay temporarily. The number of children coming into care is increasing faster than the number of foster homes in our state.

You Can Become A Foster Parent If You ...

- Are between the ages of 21 and 65
 - Are willing to be fingerprinted and have a criminal record check
 - Have a stable home and income
 - Are able to provide a safe, temporary place for children until they can be in a permanent home
 - Complete all required training and be licensed by the State of North Carolina
- You do not have to be married, wealthy or own your own home to be a foster parent.

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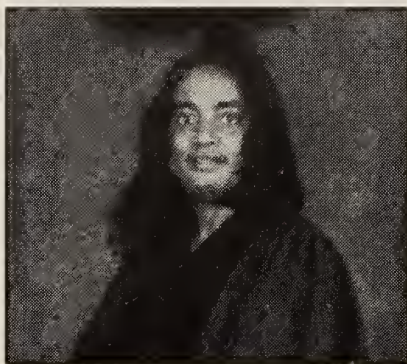
Try and "Love thy neighbor,
like thyself"

New Pastor's Corner

Don't Waste Time

By
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church,
Fayetteville, NC

In His Presence



Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter

Our thoughts, our words, our activities, and our general outlook on life are motivated by our concept of Him whom we worship. Our inner life and reaction to all environs and associations are expressions of what we have done about or with the knowledge and consciousness of His presence abiding with us. His presence abides with us always, for it is in Him we live and move and have our being. We must realize this, and come to know and understand that we are sons of God.

God is one. We cannot separate Him from His creation. We may try to do so, but in so doing we become dual, mystified, and confused.

The oneness is ever existent, but it is only through our realization and our acknowledgment of its existence that the change is worked in us, and life takes on a new perspective.

It is our oneness with the Father that the Master stressed while on earth in a physical body, when He declared that He could do nothing of Himself: it was the Father within Him that did the works. We must seek ever to be conscious His presence within. All the guidance, help, joy, peace and those things that make life worth living are within us. "Ask, and it shall be

given you; seek, and you shall find, knock, and it shall be open unto you." (Matthew 7:7). It is only when we listen to the still small voice within and know that His presence is with us that we come to the realization that we are one with Him.

We must study and meditate until we realize what attitude we hold concerning His presence. Quench not the spirit within. As His spirit bears witness with our spirit, not only will we understand ourselves better, but also there will come a fuller understanding of our brother, our friend and our enemy.

As we go fearlessly into whatever is before us, let us trust in His care, knowing that His presence will overshadow us.

He has delivered our soul from death, our eyes from tears and our feet from falling. (Psalm 116:8) May we live each moment aware of His presence and let our works speak for us.

As self is less magnified and more hope and reliance is sought in His word, each of us will become more and more aware of His abiding presence. All who would know Him must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. (Hebrews 11:6b)

NEW BOOK

Title: Death and Dying Among African-Americans: Cultural Characteristics and Coping Tidbits

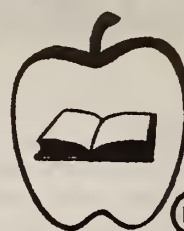
Author: James H. Carter, M.D., MDiv.

An-eye-opening exposition about death and dying that will benefit ministers, counselors, morticians, and persons who are suffering and are seeking strategies for coping with tragedies of death and dying.

Dr. Carter writes from decades of experience as a practicing physician, and describes how suffering, death and dying are experienced among African-Americans. Some of the topics discussed are: Whom do we trust when troubled, final days, alternatives to dying with dignity and a Christian's perspective on counseling and condoling suffering African-Americans.

Dr. Carter is an African-American Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina. He has authored many publications on the emotional health of African-Americans.

Purchases may be made by calling 212-736-1767 or by mail order from Vantage Press, 516 West 34th Street, New York, New York, 10001, cost: \$10.95.



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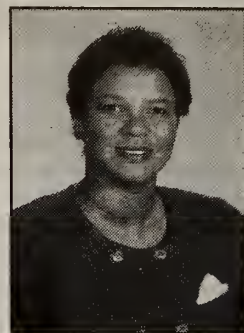
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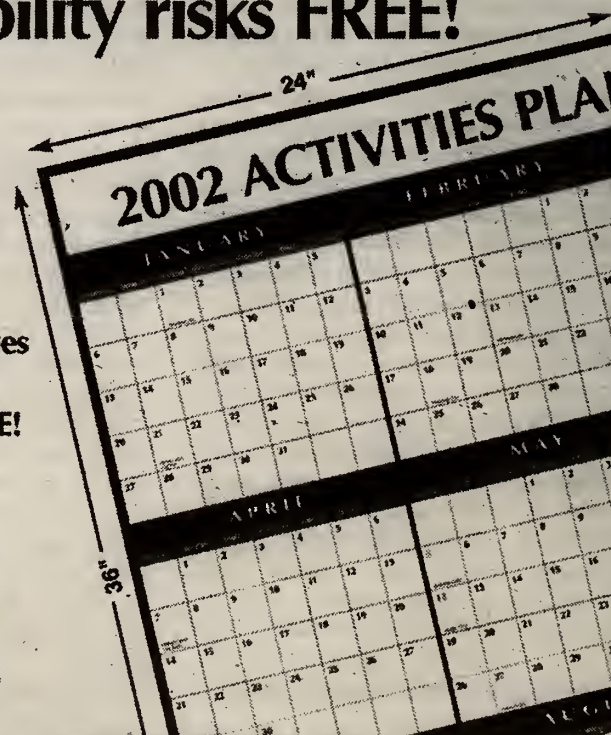


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From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

News from the Foreign Field: The Lott Carey Convention

A Long Awaited Visit To Nigeria

By Rev. Christopher T. Sims

With several years having past since the last official visit to the mission operations of Nigeria, the reception extended by Dr. Goatley was nothing short of overwhelming. From the moment he and his partner of this mission journey, Rev. Christopher T. Sims of Delaware, arrived in Lagos, to their final departure from the same, it was clear that the people of this great country have embraced the reality of their faith. Their regard for the Executive Secretary/Treasurer was displayed demonstratively in words and deeds. These expressions were not void of understanding that Dr. Goatley represented the continued stewardship of the Lott Carey Family of the United States of America. Their beings appeared to envelope the energy of his knowledge and zeal for the work of mission. As Rev. Kenneth C. Ebong, Superintendent of the Lott Carey Missions of Nigeria, introduced him, hearts burst with praise to God in a manner suggesting many prayers had been prayed that this day would come to past.

The tour of visitation began immediately when the plane touched down in Calabar where the spoken word of the traveler was translated into the language of Efik and songs of praise were sung on occasion in Yoruba. The church to which this caravan of horn blowing and trumpet playing Christians moved toward was the Lott Carey Baptist Church Calabar (known as 'the little house of no regret'). In the midst of their building project, they opened their doors and hearts setting the tone and example of all that was to follow them from the Lott Carey Missions of Nigeria. Each church congregation met the visiting delegation from one hundred yards to a quarter mile from the church and marched ahead singing the Lord's songs with gladness on into the sanctuary. The sanctuaries were filled to capacity and in some cases, standing room only. There were written welcomes rendered which expressed the joy of his coming as well as the state of affairs and hopes of the church's continued works. Dr. Goatley, without fall, praised God for the works each church was doing. He brought them greetings from their sisters and brothers around the world and assured them that they were in the daily prayers of the Lott Carey Family.

The landscape of most churches is filled with the rich and resourceful palm tree, where from two types of oil can be extracted and its multi use leaves. Being made aware of the natural resources that God had given many of the locations, Dr. Goatley echoed the call of Dr. Ebong for



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

the congregations to pursue efforts of greater stewardship of resources intended to move toward empowerment and self sustainability. He urged each church to seek movement toward being a part of the mission effort beyond their walls and even into the efforts of other Lott Carey works.

While the country continues to transform its system of governing from military rule to that of a democratic approach, one of the transitions that has had a monumental effect has been the government takeover of the schools. This has had a devastating effect on the Lott Carey Secondary School that had known great days of educating excellence. During the times of unrest, the school became victim constantly to vandal attacks. In the past, their science labs were known the country over and currently the facility is barely a shadow of its old self. The library, which once had all shelves full (wall to wall), is now showing a sparse and antiquated selection. While much of the area around the school was without electricity, Lott Carey Secondary School was as a beacon, powered by a state of the art generating system that was also destroyed by vandals. While all of these atrocities happened to the secondary school, the Lott Carey Primary Schools are thriving under strong and dedicated leadership that is currently void of governmental interference.

It is worth noting that at the visit to both schools, the children were resolved to express their gratitude for the visit by Dr. Goatley. They sang and dance with rhythms to be envied. At the primary school, a pathway of nearly two hundred students opened for Dr. Goatley's entry. Before him, several family members and tribal chiefs, the children pledged allegiance to their flag, sang their national anthem, and recited their school's motto. The opening was capped off with a moving welcome song; "Your sons and daughters have been praying along...It's nice to see you all...To see you is an answer to our prayers."

Prep All Stars is now talking applications for invitations for its 2002 summer basketball camps. Registration is open for advanced players ages (11-19). For more information or a brochure. call (704) 232-6034.

State Ushers News

By Alice W. McNair

Greetings. Hope your Holidays was a joyous one. It's almost that time again. The Ushers State Convention's One Day Session will be held Feb. 23, 2002 at the Benton Convention Center, Winston Salem, N.C. Usher presidents, begin making plans to attend by cars, church vans, church bus or whatever. Let's make this the largest One Day Session we've ever had. I am sure president Charles Fletcher will be pleased to see all of you.

We have three persons who will be honored for longevity as Ushers: Mrs. Treva Lesance, Second New Light Baptist Church, St. Paul, N.C., pastor Rev. Michael Penman has been ushering for 68 years.

Mrs. Effie Cooper, New Salem Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, N.C.; Rev. Stanford Jones pastor, has been Ushering for 52 years.

Mr. Roy Williams, president of Western Union Association Ushers; a member of Elizabeth Baptist Church, Autryville, N.C.; Rev. R. Jones, pastor, has been ushering for 42 years.

These three are to receive awards at the One Day Session, Feb. 23, 2002. Please be present. We hope to get your picture in the paper, too.

District III Ushers Annual Oratorical Contest was held Sunday, Jan. 27, 2002 at Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church, 1243 West Boulevard, Charlotte, N.C. at 4 p.m.; Dr. George Cook Jr., host pastor.

All Seniors, young adults, youth ushers of Ebenezer, Gaston County, Gold Hill, Guiding Light, Mecklenburg General, Mount Peace, Lane Creek, Rising Star and Stanley County auxiliaries are asked to attend this event. Mrs. Annie L. Fetterman, director; Mrs. Alberta Quick, assist. director; Bro. Forest M. Eaves Jr., District III President/Coordinator and First Vice President of the Ushers State Convention.

Ushers Prayful Spirit

The Ushers should have a reverent, prayful spirit. By praying more, you will not work less, but will accomplish more. You don't have to pray out loud, you can whisper a prayer as you work. Prayer is not all talking, but it is listening to God as well.

It was Samuel who said, "Speak Lord, for thy servant heareth." Prayer drives away discouragement and builds up faith and zeal. It strengthens you and makes you more aware of your task. As Ushers keep this in mind: Blessed is the Ushers who grasp the meaning of Christ's Word, "He that is greatest among you, shall be your servant."

Source Wilson's Usher Guide.

Send Usher News: P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, N.C. 28366

District III Ushers held their Quarterly Meeting in January at the First Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 1516 Remount Road, Charlotte, N.C., Dr. C.V. Owens, pastor.

A Call To Greatness (Book Announcement)

In 1970, L. Venchael Booth, was appointed a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance nine years after he founded the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC). PNBC is one of 13 member bodies of the BWA in the United States and Canada.

Now, in recognition of the groundbreaking work of his father who started this historic denomination, Booth's son, William D. Booth, has written *A Call to Greatness*. Booth is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hampton, Va.

Among the reviews are these:

"...this book is important for several reasons...it provides a survey of the divisions...that produced a new denomination known as the Progressive National Baptist Convention...it is a valiant tribute of a son to a father...and acknowledgment that amid the pain and brokenness of schism...one truth remains: 'the greatest of these is love.' -Bill J. Leonard, Dean and Professor of Church History, Wake Forest Divinity School.

"From the distinct, unique and even privileged vantage point of someone who lived close to the historical drama about which he writes, William D. Booth has produced a most persuasive and moving essay about the actual founder of Progressive National Baptist Convention." - Clarence G. Newsome, Dean and Associate Professor of Church History, Howard University School of Divinity, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

To order *A Call to Greatness*, contact: Brunswick Public Corporation
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A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

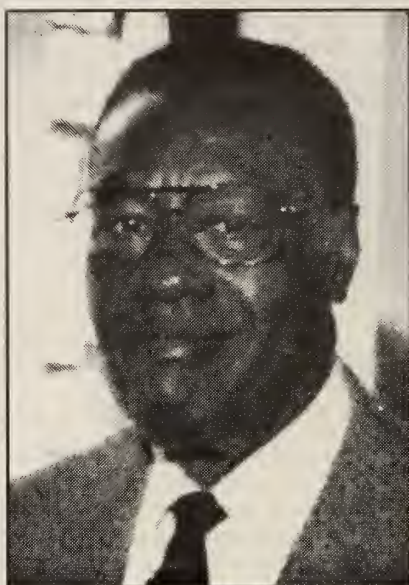
Reading of Psalm

By Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

As we emerge from the Advent Season and the impact of the commercialization of the Holidays many of us seek an opportunity to pause in order to focus anew our thoughts spiritually. When we last visited our series on the Psalms we examined the Leviticus section of the book. For the month of February let us look at the Numbers section. This is the shortest section of the five which includes Psalm 90 through 106. The Numbers section describes perils and protection. That is why it is important that we read these Psalms now. The glitter of the Holidays did nothing to dissipate the perils that we are facing in our everyday life. Added to that the ever present perils of shifting from the reason of the Advent as it is described in the WORD to the interpretation and presentation of the season by the world and the need to pause increases. Did we take the time to consider the reason that Jesus had to come into the world? Failing to do so leaves us, as Christians, searching for answers as to what should we do and where should we go from here. This is the day that the Lord has given for us to review and renew our spiritual life and focus. So let's get started.

My thoughts haunt me as I pass over Psalm 90. This is Moses' only contribution to this book. Another day and in another context I will return to examine this tremendous prayer. But to help us regain our momentum as we escape from our immediate past come with me to Psalm 103. Here the Psalmist opens the vista so that we can be cognizant about the prevailing conditions under which we live. He, the Psalmist reminds us of the relationship between praises and the tender mercies of God. As we strive to forsake all else and prepare to return to worship God and Him only we need to read and re-read the first two verses of this Psalm as often during the day as we can. There may have been times when we were so caught in the earthly celebration of the holidays that we went through the motion of recognizing God but our hearts and minds were not focused on Him.

The Psalmist warns us and causes us to reflect when he said let us not forget, "all of His benefits." Even when we fail to give Him our undivided attention it is evident that He is good to us. Is it not this that God warns us of in Isaiah 29:13? "Wherefore the Lord said, for as much as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their hearts far from me, and their fears toward me is taught by the precept of



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

men." Alone we can never worship God as we should. It is only by the Holy Spirit that we can truly worship and praise God in spirit and in truth.

As we continue to examine this Psalm let us move to verses 9-18. In these verses the Psalmist speaks to God's compassion for us. First he explains that the Lord mercifully forgives sin both of commission and omission. The reason is the same as that written in the book of Isaiah 55:6-9. Unlike man God is slow to anger. He does not always accuse us nor deals with us according to our sins. He, God, completely separates sin from the sinner by forgiving them. Secondly the Psalmist reminds us that our lives are short but the Lord has compassion on His frail people. Man is made of insignificant dust, his life is brief like grass and wild flowers. God is a comfort for our frailty and in Him and Him only is our hope. How glorious it will be when we all bless, and give praise and honour to His name.

A Christian Education Moment for our YOUTH and Young-at-Heart

For the month of February 2002 let us focus on DELIVERANCE.

1. Who captured Lot and who rescued him? Genesis 14:8-16
2. Who delivered David and who was he delivered from? II Samuel 22:1-2
3. It is better to trust the Lord than to put your confidence in WHO? Psalm 118:8-9
4. How did the Lord deliver Jerusalem and from who? Isaiah 37:33-34.
5. Who did the Angel of the Lord bring forth? Acts 5:17-20.
6. Who recognized Peter's voice after he was delivered from prison? Acts 12:13.
7. Who is being described in this passage of scripture? Hebrews 7:24-25.
8. Who was saved and delivered safely in part because of Rehab? Hebrews 11:31.
9. Who is John talking about in this passage of scripture? I John 3:4-6.

REMEMBER:

EASTER IS IN MARCH THIS YEAR!

Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

In Observance of Black History Month

There have always been a few of our Ancestors whose spirits were never broken. They led slave revolts, opened schools, wrote books, and gave speeches. They refused to move to the back of the bus, and sat at lunch counters. Therefore, be proud of our history, remember our Ancestors built the first civilization, were the first to write compute, build great buildings, and believe in one God.

Listed here are more of our Ancestors contributions:

Religion

- 1773 — The oldest Black Baptist church was organized in Silver Bluff, South Carolina
- 1787 — Richard Allen founded the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME).
- 1808 — Thomas Paul established the world's largest Black congregation, the Abyssinian Baptist Church of New York.
- 1863 — Henry McNeal Turner was appointed the first Black chaplain to the Colored troops.
- 1886 — The largest Black religious body in the world, the National Baptist Convention, was organized.
- 1886 — Augustus Tolton became the first Black to be ordained to the Catholic priesthood in America.
- 1906 — Rev. Charles Harrison Mason formed the Church of God in Christ.
- 1908 — Adam Clayton Powell Sr., became pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church and built it into America's largest Black congregation.
- 1919 — George Alexander McGuire formed the African Orthodox Church.
- 1979 — Charles E. Bradford was elected the first Black president of the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
- 1988 — Barbara Harris was elected the first female bishop in the Anglican community.

Sports

- 1947 — Jackie Robinson became the first Black to play major league baseball.
- 1951 — The basketball color line was broken by Chuck Cooper who was signed on the Boston Celtics.
- 1957 — Althea Gibson became the first Black tennis star to play at Wimbledon.
- 1960 — Wilma Rudolph was the first American Woman to win three gold medals in track and field at a single Olympiad.
- 1964 — Muhammad Ali won the world heavy-weight championship by knocking out Sonny Liston.
- 1968 — Arthur Ashe Jr., became the first Black tennis player to win the U.S. Open.
- 1981 — Earvin "Magic" Johnson was awarded a 25-year, \$25 million contract, the largest total sum in team sports history.
- 1988 — Zina Garrison upset Martina Navratilova in the U.S. Open quarter finals. Garrison was the first Black to rank in the top 10 since the women's pro tennis tour began in 1971.

During the Summer Olympics in Seoul, Jackie Joyner-Kersey became the first American ever to win the women's heptathlon, a contest that includes running, jumping, shot put, and javelin.

Inventions

- 1834 — Henry Blair was the first Black to be granted a U.S. patent (awarded for



Portia Brandon, M.Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

his corn planter).

- 1846 — Norbert Rillieux developed a vacuum evaporation process that revolutionized sugar refining.
 - 1872 — Elijah McCoy invented a steam engine lubricator that enabled machines to be oiled while in motion.
 - 1879 — T. Elkins patented refrigerating apparatus.
 - 1881 — Lewis Latimer supervised installation of the first electric street lights while working with Thomas Edison.
 - 1883 — Jan Matzeliger was granted a patent for the shoe-lasting machine, a machine for sewing soles of shoes to the upper part of the shoe.
 - 1885 — Granville T. Woods developed the induction telegraph system, a system for communication to and from moving trains.
 - 1887 — A. Miles patented the elevator.
 - 1897 — J.L. Love patented the pencil sharpener.
 - 1898 — L.D. Newman patented the brush.
 - 1899 — J.A. Burr patented the lawn mower.
- ### Politics
- 1848 — Frederick Douglass was elected president of National Black Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.
 - 1869 — Ebenezer D. Basset was appointed the first Black diplomat as minister-resident to Haiti.
 - 1870 — Hiram Revels became the first Black senator in the United States.
 - 1875 — Blanche Bruce became the second Black to serve in the Senate.
 - 1949 — William Hastie became the first Black federal judge in U.S. History.
 - 1964 — Zambia declared its independence.
 - 1966 — Robert Weaver became the first Black U.S. Cabinet member.
 - 1966 — Constance Baker Motley became the first Black female federal judge.
 - 1966 — Edward Brooke was elected the first Black U.S. Senator since Reconstruction.
 - 1967 — Thurgood Marshall was appointed the first Black Supreme Court justice.
 - 1968 — Shirley Chisholm became the first Black woman elected to the House of Representatives.
 - 1977 — Patricia Harris became the first Black woman to become a cabinet member.
 - 1989 — L. Douglas Wilder became the first elected Black governor in U.S. history.

Health & Human Services

By Anita Holmes, Executive Director

Remember Your Heart On Valentine's Day and Always

February seems the perfect time to bring attention to heart health. Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading killer for all Americans. CVD refers to disorders of the heart and blood vessel system. It includes coronary artery disease, stroke, congestive heart failure, hypertensive disease, and atherosclerosis.

Recognition of heart health in February is especially appropriate for African-Americans. The North Carolina Office of Minority Health continues to highlight the persistent disparities in cardiovascular disease. African Americans in North Carolina are one and half times more likely than Caucasians to die of heart disease and twice as likely to die of stroke. While research has contributed to a national decline in CVD during the past three decades, life expectancy and rates of illness and death from coronary heart disease have not improved as much for blacks as for whites. Blacks are also more likely to have limited access to health care resources and technology.

This year, the American Heart Association is giving special emphasis to cardiovascular disease and women. The theme for American Heart Month 2002 is "Women and Cardiovascular Disease." Most women, particularly African-American women, do not know that heart disease is their No. 1 killer. An American Heart Association survey found that fewer than one in 10 women perceive heart disease as their greatest health problem. According to the survey, sixty-two percent of women believe cancer is their leading health problem. In 1998, cardiovascular disease claimed the lives of 503,927 women, while cancer claimed the lives of 259,467 women.

The American Heart Association reports that:

- Cardiovascular disease is the single largest killer of African-American women.
- Compared to Caucasians, African-Americans have a 1.5 times greater rate of death due to heart disease.
- 68.3% of African-American women are overweight and 38.2% are obese, a major factor for heart disease.
- More than one in five women have some form of cardiovascular disease.
- One in two women will eventually die of heart disease or stroke, compared with one in 27 who will eventually die of breast cancer.

Risk Factors

Risk factors are those habits and traits that make it more likely that a person will develop a disease or disorder. The greater the number of risk factors a person has, the greater their risk. Some risk factors such as advancing age, post-menopausal status, and African-American ethnicity cannot be controlled. However, many of the risk factors for heart disease can be controlled. Controllable risk factors for heart disease include: high blood pressure, diabetes mellitus, cigarette smoking, abnormal levels of fats in the blood, obesity and lack of regular physical activity. In addition, research

is currently being conducted on the relationship of stress, emotional and social support. The risk factors for women are similar to those for men. Women at any given age are generally at lower risk of heart disease than men until they reach the age of 65. After menopause, there is a sharp increase in risk, and cholesterol levels tend to rise.

Diet, physical activity, and smoking cessation continue to surface as positive ways to improve heart as well as overall health status. During an orientation session for our new Faith and Health Initiative, funded by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, we were reminded that 80% of chronic disease is caused by physical inactivity, poor nutrition, and/or tobacco use. As a measure of prevention, The American Medical Women's Association provides the following eating hints:

10 Heart-Healthy Eating Hints

- Use the new Nutrition Facts label as a tool to make your diet as heart-healthy as possible. The labels provide information about calories, fat and sodium.
- Keep in mind that the advice to keep calories from fat to less than 30 percent does not apply to individual foods, but to your entire diet over a period of a week.
- The body needs polyunsaturated fats (essential fatty acids) and fat-soluble vitamins, therefore, fats such as liquid oils and soft margarine can be included in a heart-healthy diet.
- Watch portion sizes, particularly protein. For example, you only need about six ounces of protein each day. Three ounces of cooked meat (protein) is about the size of a deck of cards.
- Try reducing your intake of egg yolks, which are high in cholesterol. Consider mixing one egg yolk with 2-3 egg whites to get the flavor and volume of two eggs without as much cholesterol.
- Try reduced-fat, low fat and fat-free versions of your favorite foods, keeping in mind that these foods contain calories, and calories do count when it comes to maintaining a healthy weight. Cooking sprays also can be used to reduce fat when pan-frying or sautéing.
- Vegetables, grains, beans, peas and fruit are naturally low in fat, so make them the center of the meal, and use meat as a side dish.
- When eating out, don't be afraid to make your special dietary requests known (for example, ask that sauces, toppings and dressings be served on the side).
- Look for words that signal that a food might be high in fat: buttered, fried, pan fried, French fried, creamed, creamy, with gravy, au gratin, scalloped, rich pastry.
- Make the transition to a new heart-healthy diet slowly by adding or replacing one or two items at a time (for example, replacing 2% milk with skim milk and replacing butter with a reduced-fat margarine product). It's the small

changes that add up over time.

Increase Physical Activity

The following recommendations are offered by the American Heart Association to make physical activity a part of your daily life:

At Home:

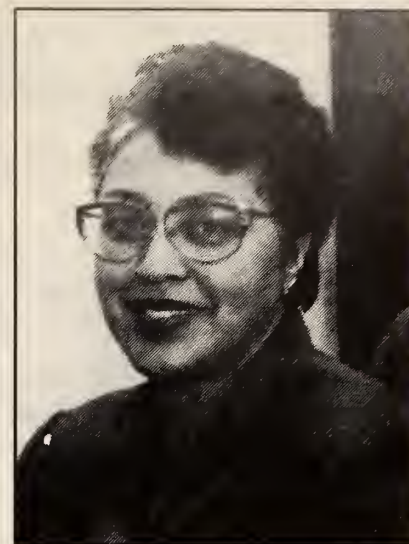
- Work in the garden or mow the grass. Using a riding mower doesn't count. Rake leaves, prune, dig and pick up trash.
- Go out for a short walk before breakfast, after dinner or both! Start with 5-10 minutes and work up to 30 minutes.
- When walking, pick up the pace from leisurely to brisk. Choose a hilly route. When watching TV, sit up instead of lying on the sofa. Better yet, spend a few minutes pedaling on your stationary bike while watching TV. Throw away your video remote control.
- Stand up while talking on the telephone.
- Stretch to reach items in high places and squat or bend to look at items at floor level.

At the office:

- Brainstorm project ideas with a co-worker while taking a walk.
- Stand while talking on the telephone.
- Take the stairs instead of the elevator. Or get off a few floors early and take the stairs the rest of the way.
- Walk down the hall to speak with someone rather than using the phone.
- Walk around your building for a break during the workday or during lunch.
- Stay at hotels with fitness centers or swimming pools — and use them — while on business trips.

At Play:

- Plan family outings and vacations that include physical activity (hiking, swimming, etc.).
- Make a date with a friend and enjoy your favorite physical activities. Do them regularly.
- Play your favorite music while exercising, something that motivates you.
- When golfing, walk instead of using a cart.
- See the sights in new cities by walking, jogging or bicycling.



Dr. Anita Holmes

Warning Signs

The need for increased awareness and immediate medical attention if the warning signs of a heart attack occur, continue to be a major concern. The American Heart Association reports that in addition to the classic signs of chest discomfort accompanied by shortness of breath, pain in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach, women may also have less common warning signs. These include a typical chest pain, stomach or abdominal pain; nausea or dizziness, without chest pain; shortness of breath and difficulty breathing, without chest pain; unexplained anxiety, weakness or fatigue; and palpitations, cold sweats or paleness.

Churches and Employers Involved in Health Promotion

As members of active health ministering congregations, we have a competitive edge. Increasingly, the effectiveness of African-American churches in conducting health promotion activities is being recognized. For example, a Johns Hopkins University study found that church-based nutrition and exercise programs could move African-American women to adopt healthier habits. According to a report of the study published in the Summer 2001 issue of Public Health Reports, programs were established in partnership with sixteen Baltimore churches to encourage over 500 participants to lose weight and choose healthier foods. Women were encouraged to exercise for at least 30 minutes, five to seven days a week and to consume 1,200 to 1,800 calories per day. Calorie intake was to include at least five servings of fruits and vegetables, 25 grams of fiber, less than 40 grams of fat, and less than 2,400 milligrams of sodium. Smoking cessation was also recommended. Findings revealed that women who participated in on-site exercise and dietary activities did much better than those assigned to self-help groups. One year after the program began, 11 of 13 risk factors

(Continued on page 16)

A Black College is not so much a harvest ground as it is a road to Higher Ground. Judith Boswell Griffin

SAVE THE DATE

BLACK COLLEGE AWARENESS DAY
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2002 • 10 A.M.-3 P.M.

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FAITH AND FITNESS • By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

More Work Must Be Incorporated Into Our Work

Prayerfully, the New Year thus far has shown you nothing but blessings from the Lord! I am grateful to our God for allowing us his continued grace and mercy to see another year.

Entering into a New Year always allows us a time of reflection. What was the previous year like? Were we able to accomplish our goals? Did we grow in the Lord? Are we closer to him than we were a year ago? Hopefully, we can answer yes to these questions.

What about our goals with regard to our health? If we did set some goals for 2001, how did we do? Do we feel healthier spiritually, mentally, and physically? If we had health issues to be addressed, did we address them, or did we ignore them with the hope that they would just go away? And now that we are in a new year, what do we want to accomplish this year? Remember that improving our health is a process that is ongoing and must always be **worked** on.

I would like to focus this "Faith and Fitness" on that word "**WORK.**" As I consider the struggles that we have with taking steps to improve our health, that 4-letter word, seems to be the culprit. Improving our health takes work. As I pondered this fact, I began to think about God and the fact that he has always intended for us to work from the beginning. Consider what we read in Genesis.

And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. Genesis 2:5

And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. Genesis 2:15

God has always intended for man to work. Why is this God's intention? Because we are made in the likeness and image of God and what did God do from the begin-

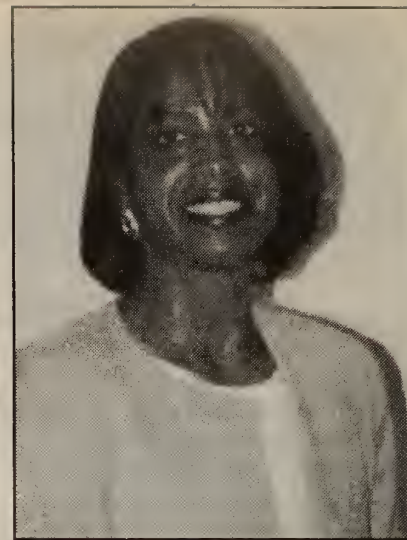
ning. He worked!

And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. Genesis 2:2

We oftentimes want to focus on the fact that God rested, but lose sight of the fact that he worked and worked hard for six days prior to his day of rest.

I do understand that you may be thinking, but you do not know what my week is like. I do work, for long hours for five and sometimes six days before my day of rest. And most of us use Sunday, the day that is to be sanctified to the Lord to continue to work at home to prepare for the upcoming week. I totally understand all of that.

I propose that even in the midst of all that we already do, that we must somehow incorporate more work into our work. Why? Because taking control of our health and taking steps to improve it, requires work. Working on our spiritual health in



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

order to remain in the will of God, requires work. We must take time to pray and to meditate on the Word of God. We must make time to become quiet to allow God to speak to our hearts. Working on our physical health requires work. Planning and insuring that we exercise at least three times per week is not an easy task, but because it is not easy, does not mean that we do not have to do it. It is not easy to improve our nutritional health. Society and our traditions and customs sometimes may make it seem impossible, but that does not give us an okay to continue putting what we know is not healthy for us into our bodies.

Why do I propose that we must incorporate more work into our work? Because I know that we will be better off, if we do.

It is a task that requires each of us to examine ourselves and determine where we are. Spiritual growth is something that we should all be striving for, as Christians.

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. 1 Peter 2:2-3

No matter how long we have walked with the Lord or how close we feel to him, we must desire to grow in him as babies, desiring the sincere milk of the word.

God desires a people who can stand the test and run the race. God has so much that he wants to do in and through us. We are called to be witnesses everywhere we go. Striving to be as healthy as possible is a part of our witness.

Yes, we must incorporate more work into our work. It is difficult and may seem impossible, but if our goal is to be healthy to do the work of the Lord, it is essential! Be Blessed!!



Change for CHANGE PROGRAM. (Please send your change in 2002) — Left to right: Carol J. Smith, Dr. Thurman B. Everett, Dr. Eric Morgan and Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Health and Human Services

for heart disease were significantly reduced in 10 percent of the women.

Likewise, employers are playing a greater role in changing the office environment to encourage physical activity in the workplace. When you enter the lobby of the African American-owned and operated North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company in Durham, North Carolina, a little sign reads: "Elevators at rest...Stairs are best!" N.C.

Mutual became the first company in the United States to launch the Stairwell Initiative with assistance from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The company, which has an active wellness program for its 125 employees, was chosen because the CDC is looking for ways to close the gap between heart disease rates among blacks and whites.

Other Resources

In observance of American Heart Month,

visit the women and cardiovascular disease website of the American Heart Association at www.women.americanheart.org. The Association has developed a wallet card that reminds women of their risk factors and provides a chart to track progress in reducing risk factors. Patients and physicians can obtain the wallet card by calling a toll-free number (888-MY-HEART). As always, please consult with your physician for medical advice.

Recipe of Month

Give your heart a healthy beat on cold winter days with this recipe recommended by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service.

Vegetable Soup

1 tablespoon vegetable oil
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 cup low-sodium chicken broth
1 cup sliced celery
1 teaspoon basil, crushed
1/8 teaspoon pepper

1/2 cup water
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 16 ounce can tomatoes in juice, chopped
1 cup sliced carrots (about 2 medium)
1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 cup frozen lima beans

In a medium saucepan, over medium-high heat, cook onion and garlic in hot oil about 3 minutes or until soft, stirring frequently. Add tomatoes with juice, chicken broth, carrots, celery, parsley, basil, salt and pepper. Bring to a boil.

Reduce heat: cover. Simmer about 20 minutes. Add lima beans and water; bring back to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer about 20 minutes or until beans are tender.

This recipe yields six 1-cup servings. Each serving has 85 calories, 3 grams of fat, less than 1 milligram of cholesterol, and 233 milligrams of sodium.

Applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The Camp is by Invitation Only. Boys and Girls ages 10-19 are eligible to apply.

Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison.

Players from 48 states and seven foreign countries attended the 2001 Camp.

College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team.

Camp locations include: Boiling Springs, N.C., Thousand Oaks, Calif., Babson Park, Fla., Gainesville, Ga., Champaign, Ill., Greencastle, Ind., Dubuque, Iowa, Hillsdale, Michigan, Saint Paul, Minnesota, Rochester, N.Y., North Canton, Ohio, Lock Haven, Pa., Bristol, R.I., Athens, Tenn., Commerce, Texas, Blacksburg, Va., and Olympia, Washington.

There is also a Team All Star Camp for School and A.A.U. Teams. Team Camp locations include: Boiling Springs, N.C., Thousand Oaks, Calif., Babson Park, Fla., Greencastle, Ind., Hillsdale, Michigan, Lock Haven, Pa., Blacksburg, Va.

For a free brochure, call (704) 568-6801 anytime.

The Use of Natural Health Cures

By James H. Carter, M.D., M.Div.

I believe our African American culture helps to contribute to delayed medical evaluations and treatments. I am convinced that culture has played a major role with regard to how, when and where African Americans seek medical attention. Consequently, there are dreadful disproportionate death rates in all major categories of diseases among African Americans, i.e., diabetes, heart attacks, strokes and suicide (often caused by depression). Consistent with cultural beliefs, many "natural" medicines are preferred and used.

It is documented that financially disadvantaged elderly African Americans are prone to rely upon herbs, turpentine, rubbing alcohol and copper to reduce pains in deformed arthritic joints; treatments that are not evidence-based. I cannot help but remember that Hosea, the Prophet, wrote, "My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6).

Today, we hear horror stories about how senior citizens on fixed incomes must choose between purchasing expensive prescribed modern medicines and food. At the present time, Medicare does not provide financial coverage for drugs outside the hospital and the American Association of Retired People (AARP) affirms that most elderly Americans, regardless of race, simply cannot afford modern conventional medicine and therefore less expensive, over-the-counter medicines and herbs maybe used.

Hence, older citizens, especially older African Americans are at risk for purchasing ineffective remedies.

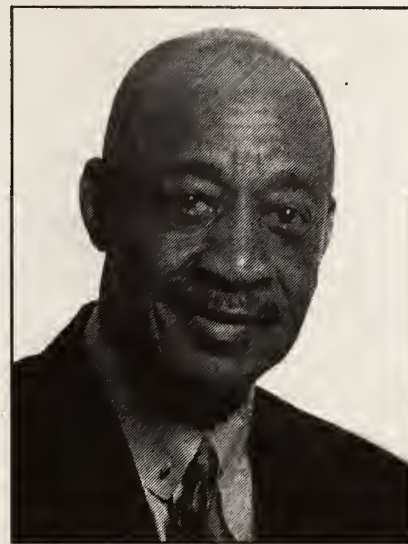
The public receives information about herbs from a broad range of sources. Homes are polluted with unsolicited mail making ridiculous claims about successful healings. There are some who present themselves as "doctors" and bash modern medicine with such advertisements as "information about your health, which your doctor does not tell you." It is implied that modern medicine seeks to keep people sick: totally disregarding the tremendous positive impact that medicine has had on the life expectancy of humankind. Diseases such as polio and smallpox have almost been totally eradicated around the world because of modern medicine. To my dismay, some African American radio stations permit advertisements about health concoctions that often have not undergone rigorous scientific research. These products offer miraculous cures for a long list of ills, including "the shakes, colic, sugar diabetes, heart troubles, dropsy, worriation, kidney gravel and swimming in the head." I cringe when I hear of African Americans suffering from insulin-dependent diabetes and receiving renal dialysis advised to abandon medical treatment that is evidence-based in favor of unconventional remedies.

Americans spent nearly \$40 billion on herbs in 1998, up from \$1.6 billion in 1996. It is estimated that in 1997, 7.4 million

Americans used an extract from a bright yellow flower called St. John's Wort, available without prescriptions at most supermarkets. Research at Duke University has shown that St. John's Wort has potentially serious side effects and is only effective with mild forms of depression. Another 7.3 million Americans during the same year, consumed capsules from a daisy for colds or flu-like symptoms (Echinacea). Because of the rapid increase, which Americans are replacing or supplementing conventional medicine with herbs, vitamins, therapeutic touch, yoga and gardening, Congress in 1999 approved funds to establish the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Physicians are fully aware that many of our prescribed medicines are intertwined with the plant kingdom. We know that many breakthroughs in modern medicine resulted primarily from the study of herbs and natural products. For example, simple Aspirins, Morphine and several antibiotics are derived directly from herbs. Our concern has been and continues to be that we ask for more research to help us determine the correct dosages, the length of time that these medicines may be used, the side effects, and the combined use of modern medicines and herbs. Yet, there is the misperception that all herbs are "natural" and therefore they must be good.

Contamination of herbal products with toxic compounds has been reported, par-



Dr. James Carter

ticularly with Chinese herbs. Some herbal plants contain substances (flavonoids) that have been associated with hemolytic anemia, chronic diarrhea and colitis. In fact, herbal tea from the Valerian root has been reported to cause acute hepatitis.

Finally, the intent of this article is to encourage patients to share with their physicians, information about all over-the-counter medicines, including herbs and vitamin supplements they are taking. This information places physicians in a better position to inform our patients about the benefits, risks and side effects of herbal preparations and to avoid prescribing medications that may contribute to drug interactions. Even when the physician fails to ask about herbal or complementary/alternative medicines, it is always in the patient's best interest to be as candid as possible with this information.

New Year's Resolution:

Make Your Health Club Experience Workout For You

By Attorney General Roy Cooper

The holiday season begins with Thanksgiving feasts and ends with the traditional New Year's Day Meal of black-eyed peas and collards, with lots of holiday eating in between. It's not surprising then that some of us find that our pants have shrunk around the waist. For many people the number one New Year's resolution is to lose weight, and you've probably noticed that health clubs increase their advertising efforts this time of year. But before you pay for the right to exercise your body, exercise some caution in your choice of a health club.

At the beginning of each year, my office experiences a sharp increase in calls from consumers whose health club experience is not working out. If you are thinking about joining a health club, here are some things you should keep in mind:

Look for Convenience

Studies show that people are more likely to continue exercising if their health club is located nearby, so it's important to find a facility that is convenient to either your home or office. When you find a club that fits that description, take a tour during the hours you are most likely to exercise there. Make certain the equipment you intend to use will be available when you need it, and that it is clean and well maintained. Look also for a friendly staff, with the appropriate educational background and certifications. Some facilities have a staff member trained in Pulmonary Resuscita-

tion on-site at all times, and some offer child care facilities. Make sure that the club you choose has the right combination of location, facilities and resources for your needs.

Take a Test Drive

Once you find a convenient facility with all the amenities you require, see if they will allow complementary visits. Actually working out for a day or two can provide helpful insights into what the facility is really like. Working out will also give you an opportunity to ask current club members about the facility. And remember, you can contact my office to see if any complaints have been filed against the facility.

Deflect Pressure Sales Tactics

The sales agent will often try to get you to sign a contract you really have time to think about your decision. The most common sales tactic is to get you excited about taking care of your body. He or she may ask "Aren't you willing to invest in your health?" or state that "Making this financial commitment will help you stay motivated."

But if spending money would keep us motivated there would not be thousands of discarded exercise machines sitting in our homes. Make your decision based on what is best for you, not on the emotion of the moment. One of the best ways to avoid pressure sales tactics is to state up front that you want to take a copy of the contract home. Watch out for facilities that will not let you do this.

Pay Attention to your Contract

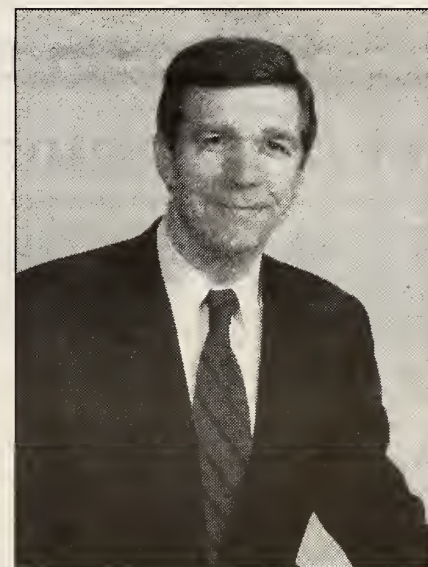
It is very important to make sure that all verbal agreements are reflected in the

final written version of your contract. So if your sales agent offers 3 months free, make certain it is included in the contract. Pay particular attention to the length of your contract. You may want to consider a short-term contract. This will help you to avoid the common mistake of signing a two or three year contract and then only working out for a couple of months. Under North Carolina law, the contract cannot be longer than three years.

Some consumers have complained about contracts that are automatically renewed, or that require the consumer to take time-consuming steps to keep a contract from being renewed. These include bringing written documentation to the club in person. Before you sign on the dotted line, ask if your contract really expires after a certain period of time or if it allows the club the right to renew it unless you specifically ask them not to do so. If it does and you don't want an automatic renewal, consider negotiating with the health club to remove that provision.

North Carolina law requires that you be given a copy of your contract, and if the club requires you to pay money more than 31 days in advance, the contract must include the following, "You the buyer, may cancel the contract at any time prior to midnight of the third business day after the date of this contract. To cancel, you must notify the seller in writing not later than midnight of....."

Your Club may expire before your Membership does. If your facility closes, contact my Consumer Protection Division at 919-



Attorney General Roy Cooper

716-6000. My office may be able to help you get part or sometimes all of your money refunded from the facility's bond or letter of credit if you paid for services in advance.

Health clubs are a great way for many of us to get healthy, and to achieve and maintain the shape we want for ourselves. But sometimes, instead of helping us to relieve stress, they can be a cause of stress. Choosing well and doing your homework before you sign a contract can help you get a positive return for your health club dollar.

Attorney General Roy Cooper and his staff work from January through December to help consumers make smart choices. We are here to be of service when you need us, but through consumer education efforts like these columns we hope to help North Carolinians avoid problems from the start.

Note to editors: This is one in a series of columns that the Attorney General is distributing to educate consumers. If you have questions or would like to receive future columns via e-mail instead of U.S. mail, please contact Catherine Nickelson at (919) 716-6409 or cnnick@mail.jus.state.nc.us

Keeping His Dream Alive in the Midst of an Absent Audience!

By Rev. Wayne M. Weathers, M.Div.
Pastor,

Morehead Avenue Baptist Church

While traveling on a spiritual journey one day, I received some inspiration to write about the importance of keeping the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. alive. In order to write this article, I had to reflect on the controversial commercial with Dr. King delivering His speech to an absent audience. In order to help the reader understand the importance of teaching our children about his dream and why it must continue to stay alive, we must think about the true significance of the commercial. Many have argued that the King family has exploited the image of one of our slain soldiers to make a profit. But if you would bare with me for just a moment, I found a deep message in this commercial that gave me a spiritual motivation to challenge the church, leaders, and the community to continue to fight to ensure that his dream remain alive.

Think about the content of this commercial very carefully. Dr. King is delivering his 1963 "I Have A Dream" speech to a 2001 audience that is not there. What is the message that God could be sending? As Dr. King is delivering his I Have a Dream speech in the year 2001, the audience of affirmative action is gone; the audience of racial harmony is gone; the audience of equality and justice is gone; the audience to ensure that every American regardless of race, creed, and color has an opportunity to receive the blessings of the Ameri-

can dream is gone. Also, the clergy and the congregation are gone. When I look at this commercial, I am led to believe that everything that this drum major of justice tried to achieve would soon be gone.

Secondly, I was able to observe that the strategies used in 1963 to achieve this dream have become ineffective in the year 2001. We are living in a generation where young kids would rather lose their lives to wear the right colors instead of losing their lives to have a right to vote. Some people have become disenchanted with the political system such that they do not have any motivation to register and vote. The rate of justified slavery has developed in this country that has caused many of our brothers and sisters (many by their own decision) to become enslaved for many years, some for the rest of their lives.

Many people have lost their vision of hope, faith, and love. Others have given up on the spiritual welfare of the church. *From this observation, I was able to identify that the absent audience did not only consist of people who use to believe in the dream, but the absent audience also includes the congregation and God's church.*

Where do we go from here?

In order to continue living the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we have to stop focusing on the problems and start developing solutions. When we look at the contents of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. dream, we have to understand that Dr. King developed his dream as a solution to a prob-

lem. Many conservatives have sensationalized and dismantled this dream. They have distorted the contents of what Dr. King was trying to achieve. They would rather focus on the fact that Dr. King was trying to live in a color-blind society; however, this dream was written when people chose to live according to racial and color focus lifestyle. Before Dr. King arrived at his dream, he illustrated the problems of racial injustices that have been occurring for many years in this country. Dr. King, not only identified the problem, but also developed a solution.

Keeping his dream away from an absent audience:

In order for us to ensure that his dream is not spoken to an absent audience, we have to develop solutions that ensure that his dream lives. Solutions will be developed when we are willing to leave our areas of comfort and meet people where they are. This is why a lot of people have become disenchanted with the dream and the church. When January 15 comes, many people across the country congregate to hold hands singing, "We Shall Over Come." But from my observation, we have been doing too much singing and not enough work. When holding hands and singing we shall overcome has become the norm, we have become ineffective because our energy is generated in the tradition of holding hands instead of using them to fight for equality and justice. Holding hands will not help our brothers and sisters who are liv-

ing in the wealthiest country in the world, but are one footstep away from becoming bankrupt and living in poverty. **We have to move away from singing, we shall overcome and move towards developing solutions for overcoming.** Classism and racism have developed into a new form of discrimination placing moderates, conservatives, and liberals against each other. As this fighting continues to escalate, we become imprisoned with the tradition of the dream and ineffective at applying the dream to our daily lives.

A danger for the church:

This is a danger for the church. It is good to sing about the goodness of Jesus; however the goodness of Jesus is ineffective if the only place we could sing about His goodness is in the four corners of the church. **An absent audience results when a message is delivered and people could care less about the content.** If we don't take the time to teach our children and congregation about the dream and the components orchestrated by Dr. King, these blessings will soon be denied.

May the blessings of our Saviour be with you all for the kind of things you do. I thank God for the past twenty five years of serving small rural churches in Wake County, who has given directly to Shaw Divinity as well to the University through the General Baptist State Convention through its unified program. I look forward to working in the future.

From the Moderator of Moderator's Committee

What Comes First!

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

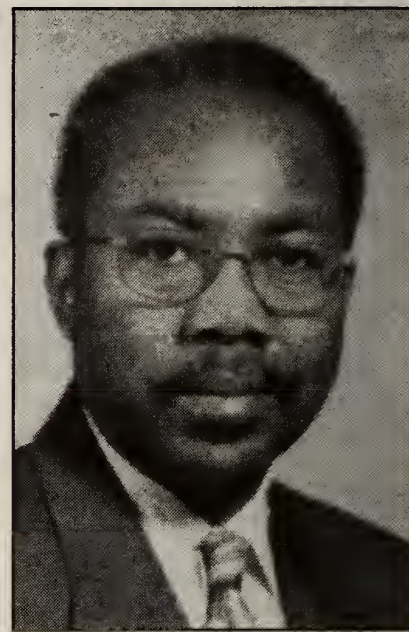
Some months ago, I wrote an article on incorporation and another one on constitution and bylaws. Since that time many of you have called and suggested that you were in the process of incorporating your church or you were beginning to work on

bylaws for your church. Of course, the one thing I failed to say in the articles for those who felt it necessary to incorporate and/or prepare bylaws, was which one I believe you should prepare first. Let me now suggest to you, that before you began preparing any documents that will have legal ramifications for your church, you need to

first consult an attorney for some legal advice. My purpose in these articles is to lift up issues and not give advice. The fact that they are "issues" suggests they need discussion and there are pros and cons.

Now having said the above, something occurred many months ago in one of our churches that gave me great concern. A minister called me to inform me that one of his members called a meeting of the church to discuss a financial issue that they had been struggling with for some time. The minister thought this was improper and called me to enlist my opinion. I told the minister that I thought that was not proper and that the individual member did not have the right to make that decision. Of course at a later time, I was informed that the member had contacted an attorney who advised him that as a member of the incorporated church, he had a right to call a meeting. Now I am not here to take issue with the attorney and the advice given may be true. However, I do know that if this is the case, then something has gone wrong because in the Missionary Baptist Church no one other than the Pastor has the right to call a meeting of the entire congregation, unless some written provisions are made otherwise.

What I discovered was that the church was incorporated but they had no bylaws. This brings me to "what comes first." I remember growing up and being asked the question, "what comes first, the chicken or the egg." It was a fascinating question then, but having matured and in Christ, I now believe I know the answer. Now please don't ask me to give you the answer. But back to the church I believe the bylaws are the first thing your church should prepare. Please note that the Bible is always your best source and that you should not hesitate to incorporate Biblical principles in your bylaws. If your church has moved in the direction of incorporating, please prepare your bylaws before incorporating the



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

church. Bylaws show your organizational structure, how the church is to function, duties of officers, who can call meetings and many other things that the church wishes to include. Then once the church decides to incorporate, the bylaws would determine these church issues. Please, do not put the cart before the horse.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

James W. Smith, JD
146 Presidents Drive
Durham, NC 27704
(919) 479-0501
Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com
Rev. W.J. Cox
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A NEW BOOK

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This book chronicles the life and ministries of 16 students the author taught in high school who became ministers.

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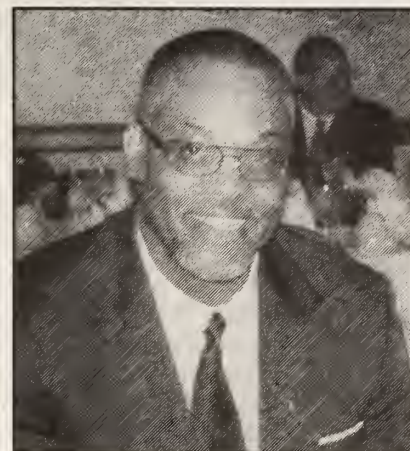
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From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.



Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.

Calling All GBSC Churches To Get Involved

"...Redeeming the time because the days are evil." Ephesians 5:16

As chairman of this ministry, I sense the most important need facing us is for more GBSC churches to become more involved in the area of crime and incarceration ministry. In 2001, The OISM took time to plan the strategy and leadership for equipping GBSC churches. This year we move to phase two: equipping churches for this ministry. The OISM is structured now with ministry coordinators in our four areas of outreach. I am assisted in this ministry by Co-chairman, Rev. Jeff Locus (Chaplain-Pamlico Correctional Center). Rev. Locus and I will provide oversight in working with our coordinators (see **OISM leadership**). I am calling on all pastors and moderators to let us equip your churches and associations to get involved in this great work. The MLK, Jr. banquet keynote speaker, Dr. Benjamin S. Ruffin spoke about "moving the stone" that hinders our response to crime and incarceration in this state. We can no longer ignore or deal with this crisis as we have in the past. My goal as Chairman is to see the crime and incarceration crisis in our state become a major objective of this convention, no longer a committee level issue. With 32,000 inmates in our state prisons, and over 20,000 African-Americans, when we will wake up to the crisis implications this is having on our families, communities and churches. 2002

is the year of equipping our churches for an effective response. **Join us in the battle to reach, reconcile and restore broken lives!**

OISM STRATEGY TO EQUIP GBSC CHURCHES IN 2002

- (1) AT-RISK YOUTH (2) IN-PRISON
 - (3) VICTIMS OF CRIME
 - (4) AFTERCARE MINISTRY
- (First pray about which area of ministry the Lord is directing you toward)

4. The most effective way to equip our churches is through the associations. Therefore, it is imperative for all GBSC moderators to schedule OISM training during your respective annual training times. Interested churches can receive the training at one time and unite in a "team response." The "team response" will ensure more resources to work with and no one person or church doing the ministry alone. We must respond with a **united effort**, not just one church or one person. Pastors should select persons in their congregations who have the gifts and calling to this area of ministry to be trained.

2. The OISM will provide training opportunities during GBSC Mid-Year and Annual Sessions.

3. The 2nd Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference is scheduled for September

ber 27-28, 2002. The place will be announced very soon. Prepare now to attend. 4. The OISM Coordinators are authorized to conduct training and will be responsible for coordinating training and educating churches around the state.

CONTACT: GBSC HEADQUARTERS @ 800-639-GBSC

OISM Chairman Michael R. Smith Sr. @ Office 919-575-3900 x6203 or 919-575-4541 x4300 E-mail mrsmith@bop.gov

OISM SELECTS MINISTRY LEADERS FOR 2002

Chairman Michael R. Smith announced at the GBSC 134th Annual Session in Asheville, N.C., the persons who would lead the four major components of this ministry. These persons will serve as OISM coordinators in helping GBSC churches become more knowledgeable and better equipped at responding to crime and incarceration.

**Rev. Jeffrey B. Locus,
Co-Chairman**

Chaplain, Pamlico Correctional Institution, Bayboro, N.C.
COORDINATORS OF AT-RISK YOUTH MINISTRIES

Rev. Michael Pope, Associate — Oak City Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C.
Rev. Wavey Williams, Associate — Springfield Memorial Baptist Church, Gastonia, N.C.

COORDINATORS OF IN-PRISON MINISTRIES

Chaplain Betty Brown — North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women, Raleigh, N.C.

Wright Cadwell — First Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C.

COORDINATORS OF AFTERCARE MINISTRIES

Rev. Carolyn Brown, Associate — North End Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, N.C.

Paul Bridgers — First Baptist Church, Goldsboro, N.C.

SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS

29th Annual Ministers' Conference Slated For March 18-20th

Mark your calendar for March 18-20, 2002. These are dates for the 29th Annual Alexander/Pegues Ministers' Conference held each year at Shaw University Divinity School. Dr. Talbert O. Shaw is president of Shaw University, and Dr. James T. Roberson Jr., is Dean of the Divinity School.

"Our Best Conference Yet"

Dr. Rudolph Tripp, Director of Continuing Education states, "We are believing God for the best conference ever. Plans are falling into place. We have already confirmed our preachers, lecturers, and choirs. The conference planning committee is excited already."

2002 Conference Preachers

Conference preachers include Rev. Dr. Gardner C. Taylor of Brooklyn, New York, Rev. Dr. James Forbes Jr., pastor of the Riverside Church in New York, and Rev. Dr. Trinette McCray of Milwaukee, Wis., president of the American Baptist Convention, with headquarters in Valley Forge, Pa. Dr. Forbes will also serve as Conference Lecturer, featuring his book "Preaching in the Holy Spirit."

New Conference Highlights

This year's conference will expand its late night worship service from one to two nights — Monday and Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. On Monday night Evangelist and Pastor Shirley Caesar, pastor of Mt. Calvary Word of Faith Church and her choir and congregation will conduct the



**Dr. Rudolph Tripp
Director of Continuing Education**

worship service. On Tuesday night, Shaw University Divinity School alumnus Rev. Dr. George Jackson Jr., pastor of Citadel of Faith Christian Fellowship of Thomasville, N.C., his choir and congregation will conduct the service. In these late night services, music of community choirs and high school gospel choirs in this area will also be featured.

- **Early Morning prayer** on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 6:30 a.m.
- **Ecumenical Holy Communion** after Wednesday's closing worship service at 3 p.m.

This is a conference you will not want to miss!!

Highlights of

SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL Annual Ministers' Conference • March 18-20, 2002

Monday, March 18	Tuesday, March 19	Wednesday, March 20th
	6:30 a.m.	6:30 a.m.
	Early Morning Prayer	Early Morning Prayer
8 a.m. Registration	8 a.m. Registration	8 a.m. Registration
	9 a.m. Lecture	9 a.m. Lecture
	Dr. James Forbes, Author <i>Preaching and the Holy Spirit</i>	Dr. James Forbes, Author <i>Preaching and the Holy Spirit</i>
1 p.m. Plenary Session		
2 p.m. Music Workshop, Dr. James Abbingdon		
	3 p.m. Worship Service/ Alumnus Rev. Daniel W. Lilly President, Alumni Assoc.	3 p.m. Worship Service Rev. Trinette McCray American Baptist Convention
		Ecumenical Holy Communion Dr. Quincy Scott Jr.
7 p.m. Worship Service Dr. James Forbes Riverside Baptist, NYC	7 p.m. Worship Service Dr. Gardner Taylor	
8:30 p.m. Late Night Service Evangelist Shirley Caesar Mt. Calvary, Raleigh, NC	8:30 P.M. Late Night Service Rev. George Jackson Citadel of Faith, Thomasville, N.C.	

NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

Congresswoman Maxine Waters Named Spokesperson for Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Submitted by Carol J. Smith
Associate Editor

U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., has been named one of the spokespersons to endorse and help publicize Feb. 7, 2002 as National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

As a spokesperson, Waters will make personal appearances and speak with journalists to promote the event and raise awareness about the HIV/AIDS epidemic, which is ravaging the African American community. She joins an impressive list of Black leaders, including radio show host Tom Joyner, and NAACP Presidential Kweisi Mfume, who have also signed on as National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day spokespersons.

Feb. 7, 2002 will be the second annual observance of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, a nationwide community mobilization effort to emphasize the HIV/AIDS "State of Emergency" among African Americans. The objectives of National

Black HIV/AIDS Day are: to **get educated** about HIV/AIDS, to **get tested** and to **get involved** in advocating for the resources to fight the disease.

"The HIV/AIDS epidemic is having a severe impact on our nation," Waters said. "Raising awareness through educational outreach programs is only one of many crucial steps needed to counter this horrific illness. I'm pleased to play a role in this initiative."

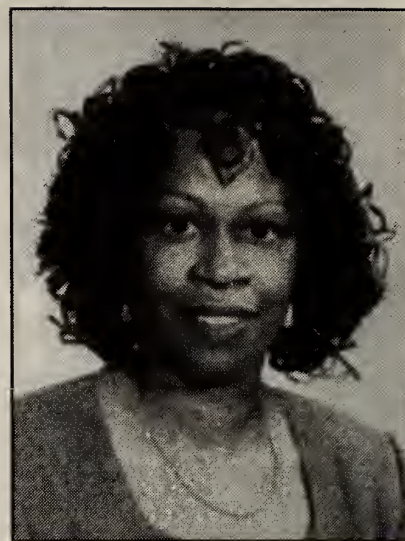
National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day will target 14 major cities: Atlanta, Baltimore, Dallas, Detroit, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Oakland, Philadelphia, Raleigh-Durham and Washington, DC. Representatives in each of the 14 target cities will hold events such as press conferences, town meetings and rallies. Additionally, free HIV testing will be offered on Feb. 7.

Waters, serving her fourth term in the House of Representatives, is considered by many to be the most powerful Black woman

in American politics today. She has gained a reputation as a fearless and outspoken advocate for women, children, people of color, and poor people. On a wide range of issues — economic development and police brutality, veterans' concerns, and international affairs — Waters can be found on the cutting edge.

Throughout her 25 years of public service, Waters has been on the cusp of tackling difficult and often controversial issues. She has combined her strong legislative and public policy acumen and high visibility in Democratic Party activities with an unusual ability to do grassroots and organizing.

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is a project of the Community Capacity Building Coalition (CCBC) — a coalition of national organizations funded by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) through the National Minority AIDS initiative to provide capacity building assistance to community-based organizations and stakeholders in-



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

volved in HIV/AIDS prevention. The members of the CCBC are Concerned Black Men, Inc.; Health Watch Information and Promotion Service; Mississippi Urban Research Center; National Black Alcoholism and Addictions Council; and the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc.

Killens Forms Exploratory Committee For N.C. House

Alexander Killens, a well-known Democratic Party political leader from Southeast Raleigh, has formed an exploratory committee to run for the North Carolina House of Representatives. Killens will seek the Democratic Party's nomination in NC House District 33 to replace Representative Dan Blue, who is running for the United States Senate.

Killens, a former Commissioner of the State Division of Motor Vehicles under Governor Jim Hunt, said he will focus on the key issues impacting the African American district. "Improving our schools, increasing our employment opportunities and enhancing the continued growth and development of Southeast Raleigh will be my number one priority. We must make sure our workforce is prepared to meet the challenges of a new world economy. We must have the very best education system to help our young people get the training they will need to be productive and successful citizens," Killens said.

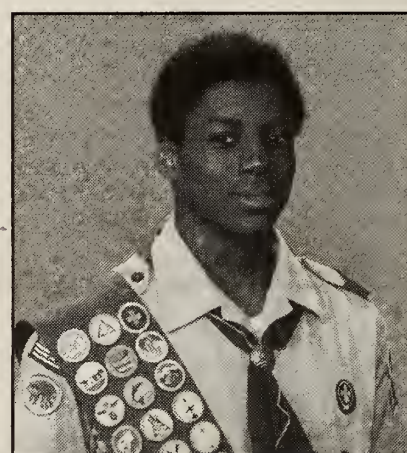
"Our community needs a voice who understands the governmental process and can step into a leadership role immediately. Dan Blue will leave some big shoes to fill. I believe I am the candidate who has the skills, vision and leadership qualities to

serve District 33 in the North Carolina House of Representatives," Killens said.

"As your public servant, I will work vigorously to be your consensus builder — helping our district and state deal with the complex issues that will cut across all governmental entities," Killens added.

Killens said infrastructure will be another major issue facing his district. "As a state we must invest more into our roads, highways and public transportation system. If there is going to be a new light rail system built for the City of Raleigh, I will work as your public servant untiringly to make sure that District 33 has a strong voice advocating our needs and making sure that Southeast Raleigh is a part of the inclusionary process. I will work to strengthen our communities in Wake County and North Carolina."

"The community is aware of the previous investigation and charges surrounding my public service. They all are aware of the nature of these political charges and understand that they had no basis. Therefore, and notwithstanding, many leaders and constituents in the district and in the African American community have asked me to consider this candidacy," Killens said. "I am now starting that process."



William Christopher Campbell

Congratulations! Eagle Scout Award

Submitted By Walter Taylor
Scoutmaster LaGrange Boy Scout Troop #114

William Christopher Campbell of LaGrange, NC will be presented the Eagle Scout Award on Saturday, January 19, 2002, 1 p.m. The ceremony will be held at the LaGrange Rotary Building, 201 South Caswell Street, LaGrange, NC. His Eagle Scout Leadership Project consisted of renovating the LaGrange Athletic Field. Chris is a member of LaGrange Boy Scout Troop #114, and Walter Taylor as the Scoutmaster. He is the son of Willette Campbell of LaGrange and Wattie Rhoda of Mount Olive, NC.

Chris is a freshman at Eastern Wayne High School, Goldsboro, NC, where he is a member of the Student Government Association, Future Business Leaders of America, Renaissance Club, Football Team and Varsity Basketball Team.

Chris is active in his church, Rouse's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church where he serves as an usher and choir member. He is also Vice-President of the Youth Department of Bear Creek Missionary Baptist Association. He has also volunteered with the American Lung Association of Washington, DC for two summers and the Goldsboro City Mission.

Dr. Holloway Receives Award

Dr. Enoch E. Holloway, pastor of Friendship Chapel Baptist Church was presented The Bill Hogarth AIDS Service Award. The award was presented by the Alliance of AIDS Services-Carolina and the following comments were made during the presentation:

"As part of his community of faith, the nominee for this award has been an active volunteer and advocate for persons living with HIV and AIDS for many years. His involvement has included, but not been limited to the following:

- He has volunteered with AAS-C as a care team member and Pastoral Support Provider of his congregation's AIDS Care Team since June, 1999; participating actively to provide practical, emotional support to multiple persons living with HIV/AIDS in Wake County.
- While the rate of person dying of AIDS has decreased, the number of persons becoming infected by HIV continues to increase, most rapidly in the African American community. As a member of the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS, he has been instrumental in the planning, implementation and visioning of Black Church Week of Prayer events for many years. He has been instrumental in challenging and recruiting other African American individuals and congregations to education and awareness issues and has led by example in responding to the needs of persons infected and affected by this disease.
- Unselfishly, this individual has gone "beyond the call of duty" speaking regularly to congregations, groups and individuals about the role of persons of faith in responding to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. A strength for persons living with HIV/AIDS is his inability to say "no" to opportunities to advocate and minister; even when his schedule remains full to overflowing. The Alliance of AIDS Services-Carolina, Faith Ministries Program and the HIV+ community are fortunate that this individual is a part of our world: His passion and call provide both healing and example to an infected and affected world of the divine love that is available for all.

High Point's Women's Auxiliary Hosted By Morning Star Baptist Church

Reporter, Mrs. Mattie Walker

Our Holiday Fellowship, spearheaded by the High Point Woman's Auxiliary, was hosted by Morning Star Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC. Key note Preacher was, Man of the Year, Rev. Donald L. Sailey.

The Dinner was prepared by the Woman's Auxiliary Officers and Presidents, and the host Church served. The dinner consisted of all the traditional Holiday

Foods and some extras.

The members of the Association brought cans of food items to be given to charity. Each year a different county is chosen. This year it was Forsyth County. Food was given to Crisis Control, Battered Women, Soup Kitchen and Salvation Army. This is only one of several charity functions, that the Woman's Auxiliary spearheads. President Nancy Perry has initiated a few more for the coming year.

NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

2002 American Cancer Society Relay For Life

God's People Making A Difference

Submitted by Chiquita and Michael Douglas
Oak City Baptist Church, Raleigh

God's People Making a Difference

The American Cancer Society is looking for teams to participate in its signature activity — Relay for Life. This is a unique activity that offers everyone in a community an opportunity to contribute in the fight against cancer. Communities support Relay for Life because statistics show that one out of every three Americans will develop some form of cancer in their lifetime.

Relay For Life is:

1. American Cancer Society's major fund-raiser. Funds are used for cancer research, to celebrate survivorship and to support activities that increase community awareness, education, and advocacy.
2. A fun, overnight event for teams from churches, schools, businesses, civic organizations, and other groups.
3. A celebration of survivors and a time to remember lost loved ones.
4. **HOPE, PROGRESS AND ANSWERS FOR A BETTER TOMORROW.**

Volunteers are needed for this year's Relay For Life. Relays will be held in six locations in Wake County. Your participation is welcomed. The locations and dates are:

Fuquay-Varina/Holly Springs April 12 & 13

Relay For Life

Womble Park

Holly Springs, NC

Contact: Gene Meyer 919-303-1292 (home) or gmeyer@mindspring.com

Raleigh Relay for Life April 19 & 20

North Carolina State University, Paul Derr Track

Raleigh, NC

Contact: Jennifer Akins 919-567-3419 (home) or RelayJenn@aol.com

Garner Relay for Life May 3 & 4

Garner Senior High School Track Field

Garner, NC

Contact: Jill Cottengim 919-836-0068 (home) or iwanchock@wcpss.net

East Wake Relay for Life May 3 & 4

East Wake High School

Wendell, NC

Contact: Marty Coward 919-269-9226 or mcoward@newsobserver.com

Wake Forest Relay for Life (1st time) May 10 & 11

Friendship Chapel Baptist Church

Wake Forest, NC

Contact: Otto Hagen 919-562-1759 (home) or ohagen@nc.rr.com

Cary/Apex/Morrisville Relay for Life May 18 & 19

Cary Senior High Track Field

Cary, NC

Contact: Diane Luparello 919-772-6255 (home) or dianeloop@aol.com

For additional details or a presentation on the Wake County events, please contact Chiquita and Michael Douglas at (919) 362-6838 or the Relay for Life Co-Chairs in Raleigh: Jennifer Akins (919) 567-3417 and Rusty Missile (919) 848-7068 (w) or (919) 772-2463 (h).

If you are interested in participating in a Relay for Life outside of Wake County, please call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 to find an event in your community.

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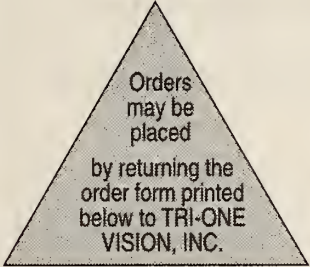
•Holy Week Services 2000

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- Love in a Slave Market
- The Pain of the Promise
- The Wind of the Spirit
- They Did Not Glorify God
- What the Enemy Wants From You
- When God Threw A Party... and Nobody Came
- When The Horses Show Up
- When The Wind Runs Out
- Who's On Trial Here?
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Pastor's Retirement Matched Savings Plan

By Dexter Perry, General Baptist Foundation — 1-866-687-4631

The following is an example of a Retirement Matched Savings Plan that can be established with any church under the Internal Revenue Code 403(b). This example assumes that the church matches 50% of the Pastor's contri-

bution to the retirement account. It also assumes that the plan earns an average rate return each year consistent with its investment class and that no withdrawals are made.

Weekly Contribution	50% Match	Investment Option	5 Years	10 Years	20 Years
\$25.00	\$12.50	Income	\$12,019.59	\$29,926.92	\$124,425.92
		Growth & Income	\$12,688.39	\$33,564.70	\$124,425.75
		Growth	\$13,404.03	\$37,755.10	\$162,361.54
\$50.00	\$25.00	Income	\$24,039.18	\$59,853.84	\$192,707.85
		Growth & Income	\$25,376.77	\$67,129.41	\$248,851.50
		Growth	\$26,808.07	\$75,510.20	\$324,723.07
\$75.00	\$37.50	Income	\$36,058.77	\$89,780.77	\$289,061.77
		Growth & Income	\$38,065.16	\$100,694.11	\$373,272.24
		Growth	\$40,212.10	\$113,265.30	\$487,084.10

Monthly Contribution	50% Match	Investment Option	5 Years	10 Years	20 Years
\$25.00	\$12.50	Income	\$12,019.59	\$29,926.92	\$124,425.92
		Growth & Income	\$12,688.39	\$33,564.70	\$124,425.75
		Growth	\$13,404.03	\$37,755.10	\$162,361.54

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DISCLOSURE: Church Bonds are not FDIC Insured or guaranteed by any bank or government. Church bonds are "mortgaged-backed" which means they are secured by a first mortgage on the church's real estate, including their worship facilities. A publicly traded secondary market does not exist. Investors may not be able to resell any bonds purchased should they wish to do so and should be prepared to have funds committed for an indefinite period of time, perhaps until bond maturity or early redemption. Additionally, church bonds are credit rated and the price of Bonds traded in a secondary market is subject to adjustment upward and downward in response to changes in credit markets and prevailing circumstances. Such price could be substantially different from the original purchase price. Principal and interest repayment is dependent on contributions to the church from its membership. Church bonds are tax-exempt.

VACANT POSITIONS

Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church is seeking applications for pastoral vacancy. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed and ordained missionary Baptist minister, living according 1st Timothy 3; 1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. Must be able to develop and share a vision for the future growth and development for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies, and practices.
7. Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.
8. Must be willing to work with the New Bern Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.
9. Education: Possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in seminary training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. One business and two personal reference (no family members).

All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

To: Chairman Deacon Mayor B. Credle
For Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5972 N.C. Hwy. 304, Bayboro, N.C. 28515

WANTED

Minister of Music for a Missionary Baptist Church: Plan, coordinate, operate and evaluate the Music Ministry. High school graduate with proven musical ability and/or college or school of music graduate. Experience. Basic knowledge and skills in reading, playing, conducting, singing, teaching, and working with groups.
Salary negotiable.

Send resume to: Rev. Darryl Canady

PO Box 849, Wilson, NC 27893

And/or call (252) 243-4496 for more information.

NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED at Friendship Baptist Church Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee

PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

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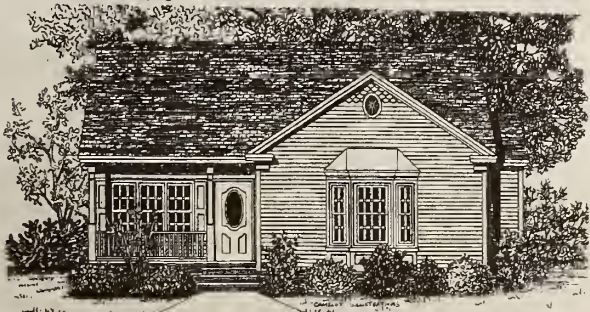
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VACANT POSITIONS

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 644/601 Pine Street, Oakboro, NC 28129

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Galilee Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. The minimum qualifications are desired for consideration:

- ordained Baptist minister
- be able to work well with church, promoting Church agenda
- teach and preach competently
- possess high spiritual, moral and ethical integrity
- possess strong knowledge of the Scriptures
- visit sick and be active in community
- active in Zion Association
- seminary training preferred and willing to advance studies
- attend church ministry functions
- coordinate and develop ministries to accommodate growing church

We have church services every Sunday (including 5th). We are looking for a pastor, not someone who only desires to preach. In interested please send resumes to: Deacon James Ashcraft, PO Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129.

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is accepting resumes for its vacant pulpit. Qualifications include but are not limited to the following:

1. Called by God.
2. Preaches, teaches, and lives according to the New Testament.
3. Adheres to the tends of the missionary Baptist Church.
4. Is able to work cooperatively with church officers and members.
5. Has a plan for the spiritual and physical growth of the church.
6. Lives within a reasonable distance from the church.

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is a small rural church that has services every Sunday. We seek a sincere, dedicated, humble, honest Christian minister as our shepherd. Please send your resume to the following address:

Mr. Richard Moore, Chairman
The Pulpit Committee
Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church , 4462 North Carolina Hwy. 801 North
Mocksville, North Carolina 27028 • Telephone: (336) 998-3362

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

First Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist Ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications.

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A degree from an accredited college and seminary
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Community oriented
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the youth
6. Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
7. Good oral and written communications skills and ability to communicate with all age groups
8. A minimum of 5 years experience as senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
9. Must be willing to attend Sunday School.

Responsibilities include:
Plan and implementation of innovative religious programs, activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Please send resumes to:
Tanya M. Autry, Chair
The Pastoral Search Committee, First Missionary Baptist Church
103 Church Street, Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

The Greater Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, established in 1993 with 200 members, is seeking a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Senior Pastor with 2-4 years Seminary training and college graduate. Pastor to serve as an effective spiritual leader, teacher and administrator with the following qualifications:

- Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.
- Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
- Must possess strong administrative, organizational and leadership skills.
- Must possess strong moral values.
- Must be community oriented.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience
2. A copy of college degree, certificate of license and ordination
3. Name, address, and telephone number of (1) business and (3) personal references — excluding relatives.

Please mail all requested information for review to:
c/o Pulpit Committee
P.O. Box 241231, Charlotte, NC 28224-1231

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GATEWAY began serving the members of Vance, Person, Warren and Franklin counties in 1994. As a Community Development Credit Union, GATEWAY continues to pro-

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OUR MISSION

Gateway's mission is to promote thrift among its members by affording them an opportunity to accumulate their savings, and to create for them a source of credit at a fair and reasonable rate of interest, and to provide for its members an opportunity to use and control their own money to improve their economic and social condition.

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In its few years of existence, Gateway has gained a committed and growing membership base. Currently serving a thousand plus members each day. Gateway offers services designed to enhance the member's experience. By offering quality services, the door to success has been opened for many of the credit union's members. Take a moment to see what we have to offer.

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Account #: _____

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Work Phone: _____

Employment: _____

SSN/TN: _____

Driver's License: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____

Eligibility for Membership: _____

ACCOUNT TYPE

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- ☐ Share Certificates
- ☐ Christmas Club
- ☐ Loan
- ☐ ACH, Direct Deposit
- ☐ Payroll Deduction
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For More Information

Gateway's staff is dedicated to providing you with the best service possible. To inquire about becoming a member of our community development credit union, please contact:

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at **Gateway Credit Union**

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Business (252) 492-5854 or Fax (252) 492-7832

VACANT POSITIONS

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:
Attention: Trustees
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

Notice:

Pastor needed at Star of Zion Church, New Bern, N.C. 28562.

Submit application to:
Pastor Selection Committee
2101 Chestnut Ave.
New Bern, N.C. 28562

The Center Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC is currently seeking a "Minister of Music" who is able to work well with a diverse group of singers including youth. Must be able to play keyboard, piano, and organ. Must be dependable and have good moral character. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to Center Baptist Church, Attention: Personnel Committee, POB 550064, Gastonia, NC 28055 or fax cover letter and resume to Personnel Committee at 704-824-7683.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:
Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343 CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- *Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
 - *Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
 - *Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.
- Salary negotiable.** Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano
- *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music
- *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road
Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.

I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

- A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
- B. At least 3 years of experience as accomplish/director for choral group(s)
- C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
- D. At least 3 church-related references

II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
- B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
- C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
- D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
- E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
- F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
- G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

Qualifications

- Born Again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- Pastoral Experience Preferred
- Family Oriented
- Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs

Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:

Pastoral Search Committee
First Baptist Church
ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman
P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee
St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

Senior Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a historical and traditional Missionary Baptist Church located in Greensboro North Carolina.

Organization:

Shiloh Baptist Church, 1210 South Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina

Shiloh Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking to identify a righteous individual of God's choosing to minister the people. Shiloh members require that the person called to minister and pastor at Shiloh will preach, teach and proclaim God's Word. The members require that the person exemplify Christ like character in his daily living, be honest, of high integrity, compassionate and loving in caring for others. Shiloh members require that the person has a spiritual commitment to the Body of Christ and is knowledgeable and versed in the instruction of Biblical Scriptures.

Qualifications:

- Four Year College or University Degree and Seminary Degree.
- Ordained minister rooted in traditional Missionary Baptist Doctrine.
- Minimum of Five to Ten Years of Pastoral experience preferred.
- Proven and administrative skills.
- Consensus builder.
- Spiritually mature.
- Family Oriented.

Contact Information:

Please submit by February 10, 2002, a letter of interest, Biographical Sketch and Resume to:
Shiloh Baptist Church
Attn: Steve Allen, Pulpit Committee Chair
P.O. Box 20048
Greensboro, NC 27420

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

Pulpit Vacancy

The pulpit committee of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants should possess the following qualifications:

Must be a born-again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called minister with strong family and community values.

Must be a licensed Missionary Baptist minister.

Must be able to preach and teach Bible study.

Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.

Must have experience as a senior or associate pastor.

Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Must possess strong and proven administrative skill and experience.

Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.

Must be a just and fair individual and possess tact.

College degree is preferred but will consider any combination of education and pastoral experience.

Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church.

Resumes should be sent to:

The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chair
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909
elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

VACANT POSITIONS

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GOLDSBORO, N.C., INC.

601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530 • (919) 735-2176

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, with a membership of approximately 200 members, is seeking a full-time pastor.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
2. Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
3. Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
4. Council members having personal, family and/or work related problems
5. Support religious programs for children, youth and adult.
6. Develop and instruct weekly Bible Study Classes and directing the Bible Study and Sunday School Staffs
7. Support the church's financial program
8. Involve the congregation in the existing church programs and ministries.
9. Meet regularly with the chairperson of the Deacon, Deaconess, Trustee Board and other Auxiliaries of the church
10. Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
11. Preside at funerals and weddings unless the families have someone else of their own choosing
12. Support the World Mission of the church
13. Share in the civic leadership of the community

QUALIFICATIONS-EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

SAVED AND FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ. Degree in Theology/Religion preferred. Ordained and at least five (5) years experience as a pastor of a **MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**.

Interested candidates should send a resume with a cover letter to:

Pulpit Committee, c/o Kirby L. Hamilton, Chairman
Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Goldsboro, Inc.,
601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530

P.S. Please include a copy of your credentials (Ordination Certificate and License)

POSITION: SENIOR PASTOR/FULL-TIME

START DATE: IMMEDIATE

The Ebenezer Baptist Church search committee is hereby accepting resumes for the position of Senior Pastor. The candidate must be a licensed/ordained Baptist Minister.

We respectfully request that you only apply if you are sincerely interested and meet all qualifications.

Requirements/Qualifications:

1. Must be called by God, born again and filled with the holy spirit to preach and teach the word of God.
2. Ordained Minister with preferred pastoral experience of 3-5 years with a minimum of a bachelors degree in theology from a School of Divinity. Furnished copy of license and ordination certificate.
3. Possess a strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, policies, and practices. (The Covenant and Code of Ethics)
4. Possess good moral and ethical conduct according to 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:7-9 and abstain from such activities and inclinations as those cited in Romans 1:26-27.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator, and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with an emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the Church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries, and committees.

The Committee will provide each candidate with an information packet. All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Ebenezer Baptist Church
Attn: Deacon Milton Buxton/Confidential
P.O. Box 248
Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

PHILLIPS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, NC, is currently seeking a senior pastor, spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume no later than December 15, 2001.

The successful candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- Must be born-again, spirit filled, divinely called minister with strong family and community values.
- Must possess the willingness to follow by the By-Laws governing the church.
- Must have a knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures and be willing to follow such.
- Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
- Must have significant experience as a Senior Pastor.
- Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Religion, Theology, or Divinity from an accredited college, university or divinity school.
- Must be willing to work with all age groups with particular interest in the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
- Must be able to develop and share a vision for the future growth and development for the church.
- Must visit and commune with sick, shut-in and bereaved families.

All applicants should provide the following information:

- Copy of college degree(s), certificates of license and ordination
- Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training
- Name, address and telephone number of (4) personal and professional references with no more than (2) coming from other ministries

All materials should be forwarded to:

Dr. Ernie Wade
Chairman, Pulpit Committee
Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
132 N. Glenn Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC 27105

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a **MINISTER OF MUSIC**.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be a born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave., High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- 8 Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor, 909 Barbee Avenue

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
 2. Pastoral experiences is required.
 3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
 4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
 5. Must be able to preach and teach.
 6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
 7. Family oriented.
 8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
 9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
 10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.
- Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr., 920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

VACANT POSITIONS

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

NEED A FILL-IN OR AN INTERIM PASTOR?

Qualified, Experienced, Healthy and available for service. Call or write:

REV. MELVIN W. GATTIS

3907 Bivins Road
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Phone: (919) 479-0982

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request **in writing** applications from:

Zion Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee

2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ, Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY

SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

MOUNT PLEASANT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 115

Harrellsville, NC 27942

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church located in Hertford County, NC is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Our worship services are each Sunday of the month.

Qualifications:

- Must be a born again Christian
- Must be a licensed and ordained Baptist Minister
- Must have at least 5 or more years of experience as Pastor/Assistant Pastor
- Must have a knowledge of Biblical Doctrine of the Holy Scriptures
- Must have a vision for the church
- Should possess administrative skills
- Must have at least a High School education and Bible training
- Must be able to teach as well as preach
- Must be able to serve every Sunday

All interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. Two letters of reference. Please do not use a relative.

Send information to:

Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Pastoral Search Committee
Attn: Deacon Eugene White
815 Swains Mill Rd.
Harrellsville, NC 27942

CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers. Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary.

Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

MUSICIAN WANTED

Metropolitan Baptist Church

Rocky Mount, NC

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

Metropolitan Baptist Church

Rocky Mount, NC

252-442-4623

POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church

1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church

Attention: Deacon David Pridgen

1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF DURHAM

is seeking a person to serve as musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

- Should be able to play the piano and organ.
- Work well with diverse range of singers.
- Experience in diverse music (Hymns, gospel, contemporary, traditional).
- Ability to read music and play by ear.
- Be available for scheduled rehearsals, Second Sunday Morning Worship Service.
- Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church engagements as scheduled.
- Be available for evening programs as scheduled.

Interested persons may send resume to:

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, 4610 Fayetteville Rd.

Durham, NC 27713, Attention: Sis. Esther Thompson or Call 544-8596

GENESIS BAPTIST

Youth Minister needed full-time.

Qualified candidates must be trained at a seminary, mature spiritually, and experienced working with children and youth. Mail or fax resume and salary requirements to:

Genesis Baptist Church

Cathy Daniels-Lee, Search Committee Chairperson

2812 E. Bessemer Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405

Ph. (336) 379-1133 • Fax. (336) 379-1615

Web site: www.greensboro.com/genesis

VACANT POSITIONS

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman, Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563, % The Pulpit Committee

SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest or resume

Copy of license and ordination certificate

Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church

ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church

Route 1, Lake Wendell Rd., Wendell, NC 27591

The Lee's Crossroads Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested, ordained Baptist ministers. Please include the following in your resume:

1. Name/address/day and evening phone numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools attended
5. Pastoral Experience
6. References

Qualifications

1. Born again Christian
2. Ordained Baptist Minister
3. Ability to preach and teach God's Holy Word
4. Possess leadership and administrative skills
5. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrine
6. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct

Resumes may be sent to:

Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church, Pulpit Committee

Deacon James R. Adams, 1342 Medlin Rd., Clayton, N.C. 27520

Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Policies and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee

Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

The deadline to submit information for the "Baptist Informer" is the 10th of each month prior to publication.

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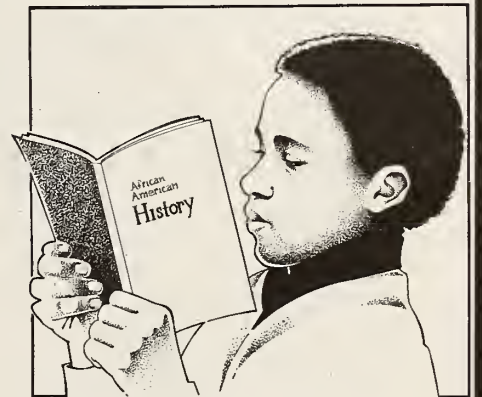
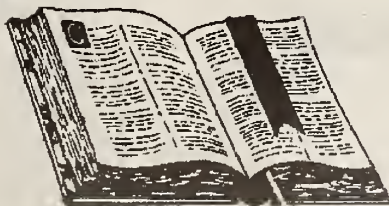
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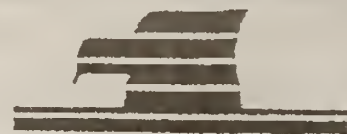
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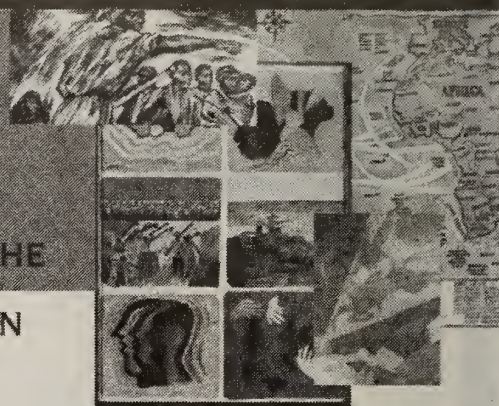
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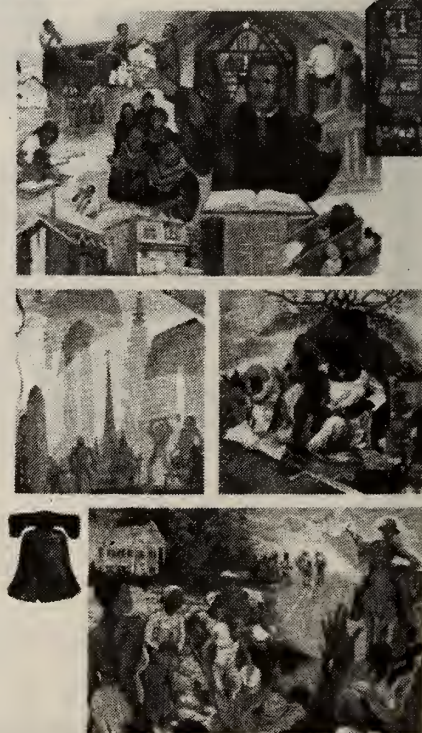
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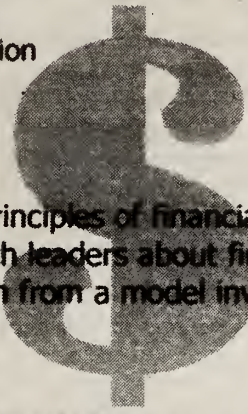
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Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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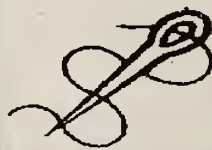
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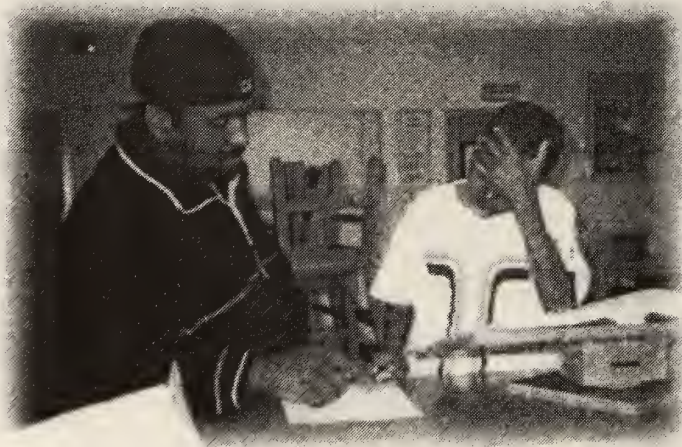
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We need volunteers statewide to help us with our Millennium Stewardship Campaign. Persons needed to make contacts, write grants, make telephone calls, do mailings and identify perspective givers. If you are interested and have skills in these areas please contact us at Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338, 919-821-7466, 800-639-GBSC, HYPERLINK "mailto:alogan@gbsc.org" alogan@gbsc.org; HYPERLINK "http://www.gbsc.org" www.gbsc.org. Please pray for the success of this campaign. Your participation will make a difference in this project.

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Charlotte, N.C.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Logan Appeals For Van

By Rev. Dr. Jimmie Whitehurst,
Executive Manager General Baptist Bookstore

During the Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet the Rev. Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer appealed to the GBSC Family for a "Church Van."

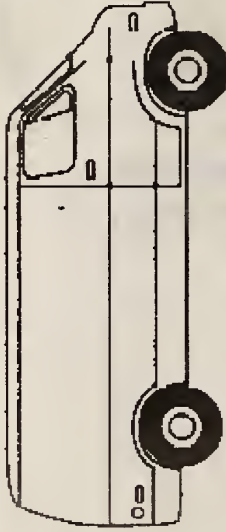
Dr. Logan asked any church, Association or General Baptist that had an extra van, or pre-owner van that is not being used or has been replaced by a new vehicle to donate your old van to the GBSC.

He said, "We need a van to promote our field work and General Baptist Bookstore Bookmobile." If you, your Church or Association has a van you are willing to donate to the "Work," call me today.

Please contact:

Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.

603 South Wilmington Street,
Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2338,
919-821-7466; 800-639-4272;
alogan@gbsc.org.



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Baptist Informer

Vol. 125, No. 2

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

February 2002

The General Baptist Foundation

By Mr. Dexter Perry

The General Baptist Foundation is open for business and can assist you with opening a retirement account or getting a loan for your church. You can call us toll-free at 1-866-OURGOD! (687-4631), or visit us online at www.NCGBF.org and browse through our programs and services menu. Church Deacons and Trustees plan for your Pastor's Future and retirement, call us today!

It's Tax Time Again. Are you saving the Maximum amount allowed?

Larger IRA Contributions

Starting with the 2002 tax year, annual contributions to Traditional and Roth IRAs (individual retirement accounts) rise from the current \$2,000 per year to the following:

Years 2002-2204	\$3,000
Years 2005-2007	\$4,000

Larger 401(k) and 403(b) Contributions:

Starting with the 2002 tax year, annual contributions to your church's 403(b) plan will rise from the present \$10,500 annual contribution to the following:

Year 2002	\$11,000
Year 2003	\$12,000
Year 2004	\$13,000
Year 2005	\$14,000
Year 2006 & Beyond	\$15,000

Disclosure: The General Baptist Foundation does not provide tax advice. Where appropriate, it is suggested that you consult a tax planning professional with regard to your personal circumstances.

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1867-2002 • 1867-2002 OUR 135TH YEAR BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 125, Number 3

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

March 2002

Ben Ruffin Follows Up On Committee To Head GBF, Inc. Tax-Deductible Charitable Gifts Program Through North Carolina Mutual Insurance Co.

By Archie D. Logan Jr. Executive Secretary-Treasurer

During the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet the guest speaker Mr. Ben Ruffin, CEO/President of the Ruffin Group, Winston-Salem, N.C. gave

an inspiring speech about who will roll the "stones away?"

Mr. Ruffin challenged the GBSC, Inc. to do more to endow its work. He encouraged the Convention to build its Foundation. In the weeks following the event, Mr. Ruffin has put into place a special oppor-

tunity for the GBSC, Inc., and the General Baptist Foundation, Inc., to participate in a tax-deductible Charitable Gifts Program during our Millennium Stewardship Campaign. The program will be specially designed for us by North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Mr. Ruffin stated, "...this type of program has been used by many other organizations and universities to build their Foundation endowments...we must begin to help ourselves become more self-sufficient." We want to thank Ben Ruffin and the Ruffin Group for their willingness and commitment to help spearhead this part of our Stewardship Campaign.

We need each Moderator, Pastor, Officer and member of the GBSC to join us in our Stewardship Campaign. Dr. W.B. Lewis is our overall Convention coordinator.

(See Banquet on page 3)

Chairman Miller Announces Conference 2002

By Dr. H.C. Miller
Chairman of Evangelism-GBSC

Grace and peace be unto you all from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Savior.

It is with great excitement and anticipation that I announce to the Convention Family the details for the Evangelism Conference 2002. This year's Conference shall be held in Raleigh, N.C. with the Watts Chapel Baptist Church, April 15-18, 2002. We are blessed to have secured anointed participants to lead us in this Conference. I am convinced God is going to do great things as we camp around the theme of "Announcing the Kingdom of God." Mark 1:14-15.

Dr. Eddie Hunter, founding Pastor of Miracle Baptist Church, Alexander City, Alabama, shall serve as Conference Preacher. Dr. A. Lincoln James of the Trinity Baptist Church, Richmond, VA, as Con-

ference Lecturer. In addition to these anointed men of God, there will be a Conference Special Guest and other participants from across our great state.

We are asking our churches to represent in this Conference with \$100 and individuals with \$15. The Sheraton Capital Center, downtown Raleigh, shall serve as the Headquarters Hotel at a rate of \$89 per night. Additional hotels for the Conference are the Red Roof Inn & InnKeeper both on South Sanders Street, at a rate of \$49 per night.

We encourage you to come to Raleigh prayed up and prepared for both instruction and inspiration. We are persuaded that God's favor will be evident during this great Conference.

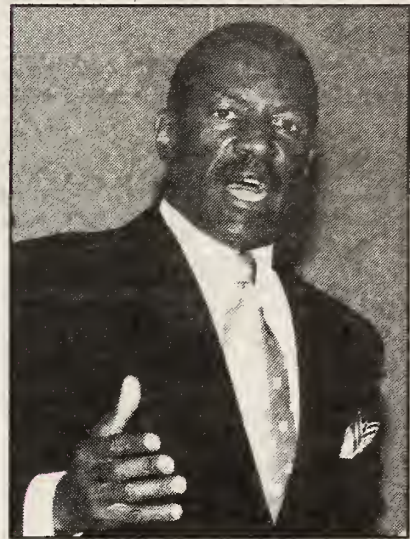
If you have any questions or comments please feel free to call my office at (919) 834-7249/7980, or the Baptist Headquarters at (919) 821-7466.

May the Lord's blessings be upon you all



Dr. H.C. Miller

and we eagerly await your arrival in the capital city for Evangelism Conference 2002.



Ben Ruffin

Pastor, Friend, Father....

It was thirteen years ago that God called Dr. Joseph C. Paige to lead the flock of Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church in Bunn, North Carolina. Since that time, Doc, as we affectionately called him, was a Pastor, a Friend, a Father and much more. He was a role model and example of love. He had high moral values and was above all a Christian. Doc loved God, he loved life and he lived it to the fullest each and everyday of his life. His knowledge extended the boundaries of genius. Doc could expound on just about any subject available for discussion. Doc was dedicated to helping someone else. He felt that if he helped someone then his living was not in vain. No matter the situation, no matter the hour of the day or the night, Doc was on the case. One night he called Gwen and me and asked us to go with him to the hospital in Louisburg to visit someone who requested their Pastor to come and have prayer. "You don't mind if I tell this...?" (That is what Dr. Paige would say when he would tell a story and it didn't matter if you said yes or no he was going to tell the story). So Gwen and I met Doc at the church and went to the hospital, 11 p.m. Visit-

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: casting all your care upon Him: For He careth for you. To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen! (1 Peter 5:6, 7, 11)

ing hours closed for the day and here we go, into the hospital, went straight to the persons room, visited for a while, had prayer, walked out of the room and the nurses and doctors never said a word, because they knew it was only Dr. Paige.

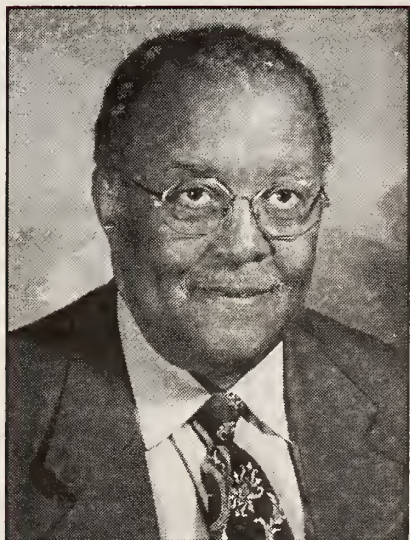
Doc was determined to help as many people as he could anyway possible. And if you could be instrumental in helping him to help someone else, he was quite persistent. I don't think Dr. Paige knew what the word "No" means. He always said, all things are possible. "Claim it" he would say and "act as if you already have what you have claimed." Dr. Paige had great faith; it was larger than a mustard seed. He trusted the Scriptures, ask and you shall receive, knock and the door will be open, seek and you

will find...

Dr. Paige's love and caring concern for all people regardless of age or circumstances is now legend. In addition, his generosity to those who need, whether in counseling, listening, or the sharing of financial resources, is virtually unmatched by others in this life.

His unquestionable faith in God was well established. The manner in which he dealt with his personal issues, from cancer to congested heart failure was in a source of continuing spiritual inspiration to all who knew him. As a result of Dr. Paige's faith in God, we are "finding more power than we ever dreamed—learning to lean on Jesus!" Doc taught us not to complain because we all have some good days and we all have hills to climb, we all have weary days and some sleepless nights, but when we look around and think things over, all of our good days, out weigh our bad days...and we should not complain.

The Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church Family pauses to thank God for the life of Dr. Joseph C. Paige. We shall never forget Dr. Paige, for he touched the lives of many. *If I can just*



Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

help someone along the way, then my living will not be in vain!

Rev. Anthonette Wright
Associate Minister
Deacon Larry Neal
Deacon Ministry
Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church

(Obituary on page 10)

From The Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Rev. Archie D. Logan Jr., Ed.D.

General Baptist State Convention and North Carolina Baptist State Convention To Celebrate 135 Years Of Co-operation

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

In October 1867, at the creation of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, the North Carolina Baptist State Convention sent representatives to assist the GBSC in its organization. The Baptist State Convention appropriated \$500 to conduct Mission Institutes for the GBSC Inc., during its beginnings. Also Article II, Section 2, of the GBSC, Inc., Constitution call on the GBSC and the North Carolina Baptist Convention to work together in Kingdom Building.

Over the years our organizations have spearheaded the Baptist work in the State. We periodically join together

for fellowship, partnership and Christian witness. In this our 135th Year our two Conventions are joining together to provide homes for Hurricane Floyd survivors in Eastern North Carolina and to evangelize souls for Christ.

This is the first joint project of our Conventions this millennium.

We have joined the North Carolina Baptist State Convention in a joint Fellowship Service and Statewide Affordable Housing Ministry Project to culminate, May 8, 2002, during our 135th Annual Mid-Year Session. The Session will be held in Winston-Salem, N.C., at the Emmanuel Baptist Church. Dr. John Mendez is the pastor.

We have invited members of the

North Carolina Baptist State Convention to join us in a day of Fellowship Service, Wednesday, May 8, 2002. Dr. Gardner C. Taylor, New York City; Dr. Don Bouldin, Cary, N.C.; Dr. Wesley Wiley, Washington, D.C., and other prominent Baptist will lead the celebration. The Session will solidify our partnership to reach out to hurting humanity in Eastern North Carolina. The theme will be: "WORKING TOGETHER TO ADVANCE THE KINGDOM."

Our project goal is to evangelize lost souls for Jesus Christ, and to build affordable homes in Eastern North Carolina. Each Convention will set aside times to receive stewardship offerings from our churches across the State to be used to purchase building materials. Following the May session we propose that our two Conventions, coordinated by our GBSC Laymen's auxiliary and the BSCNC Baptist Men join hands to build the homes in Eastern North Carolina. Laymen President Jarvis Morgan



Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

and Mr. Romas Hales will coordinate our efforts.

We will assist those devastated by Hurricane Floyd and fulfill the Gospel Mandate of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in Saint Matthew, chapter 25:31-46.



Change for Change — Mount Olive Baptist in Durham. Pictured from left: Rev. Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., the Rev. J.W. Freeman and the Rev. Jimmie Whitehurst. Please collect your change!

GBSC Is Available To Work With Churches

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Greetings! The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina is available to work with your church during the time you do not have a Pastor. We will work with the Deacons and other officers to provide guidance as you search for a new pastor to lead your church.

Some of the things we offer:

- We have ordained Baptist ministers available to assist the Deacons in carrying out the Church Ordinances: Lord Supper and Baptism.
 - We have ordained clergy who can serve as an "Interim Minister" in your church.
 - Some suggested workshops:
 - ✓ How To Select An Interim Pastor?
 - ✓ How To Call A Pastor?
 - ✓ How Much Should We Pay Our Pastor?
 - ✓ Church Administration
 - ✓ How To Plan A Church Budget?
 - ✓ Effective Bible Study
 - ✓ Evangelism Classes
 - ✓ Special Training For Deacons/Trustees
 - ✓ Christian Education Planning
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 - ✓ Please call if you are interested in any of these services!
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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

From The Desk of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President

From the Desk of the Vice President at Large: Charles T. Bullock

"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:14).

I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. As I seek the office of president of our convention, my purpose is to serve Christ through the convention. We have a structurally sound convention and supportive auxiliaries that are founded on the biblical premise that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God and that His Church is to be redemptive and reflective of His grace and love for all mankind.

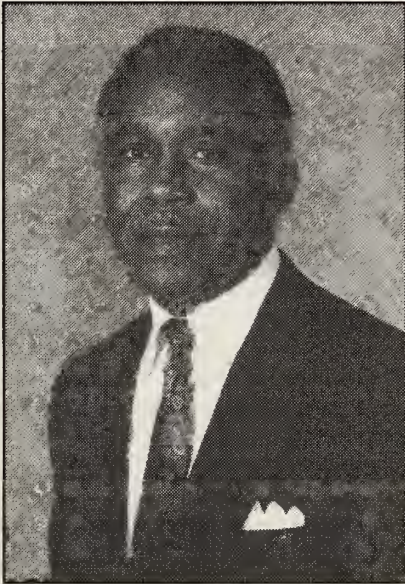
Serving as Vice President At Large affords me the opportunity to preside over the General Board, to work closely with the President, the Executive Secretary Treasurer and other leaders of our convention. This experience has helped me to gain a knowledge of the spiritual, programmatic, structural and financial health of our convention. I know that it is the responsibility of the president to work with other elected officers and be supportive of the convention objectives. In checking the record of the convention, you will find that it will testify to my commitment and stewardship.

We live in a changing world and as Christians, we are to address the challenges of a changing world. As General Baptists of the State of North Carolina, we acknowledge that there are global changes and world events

that will force themselves upon us and altar some of the ways we do ministry. Yet it is the command of our Lord and Savior Jesus to "...teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

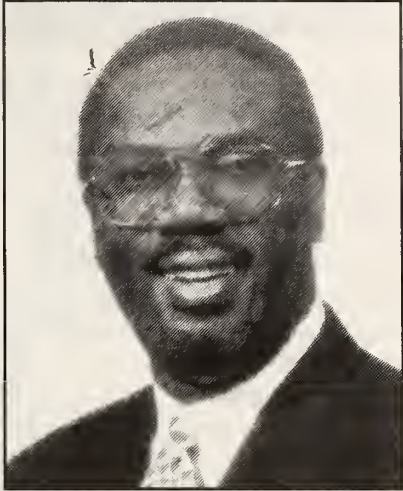
Therefore, I believe that it is our responsibility as Christians and Convention leaders to affect in others a desire for and commitment to a closer and more intimate relationship with God. This intimacy and/or transformation can take place through the relevant teaching and proclaiming of the gospel that the redeemed might be edified and the unredeemed added as living stones to the building of God's kingdom. This can be accomplished in part as our convention offers a diversified comprehensive ministry to meet the various needs of the auxiliaries, associations, unions and churches.

One of the ways the convention can be an asset to its constituents in changing times is to provide the kind of leadership that will create an enhanced vision addressing the educational and technical systems for daily use. Therefore, I offer a vision of an enhanced education and teaching ministry of our convention, utilizing the state-of-the-art strategies and technology on the local, state, and



Dr. Charles Bullock

collegiate levels at or through Shaw University Divinity School. This includes the use of the internet-on-line courses and the World Wide Web. Ministers and lay persons alike can take advantage of this opportunity to pursue and continue their education without having to make the commute to Raleigh on a daily or weekly basis. Courses can also be taken on the campus,



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

at the various convention settings, ministers' conferences, Baptist Assembly and at the various retreats. Arrangements can be made for credits for courses taken.

Committed leadership and continued, relevant education are only two of the components or platform goals that will serve as a foundation for the program and ministry of our convention. As we seek to enlarge our ministry in these areas, we will not forget our commission to "...be witnesses unto me...unto the uttermost part of the earth." We still have critical and necessary challenges to "reach the masses" and the "least of these" at home and abroad to provide for their spiritual, physical, emotional and educational needs as well. Our primary goal in enhancing ourselves is that we may be used by God in a greater way to carry out His Great Commission. These we will continue to do as we PLAN together, WORK together, FELLOWSHIP together, PRAY together and PAY TOGETHER. May God be praised!

GBSC 135th Annual Banquet in Memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The General Baptist State Convention's 135th Annual Banquet in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was held Friday, January 11, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Raleigh Civic Center. Dr. Charles Bullock, presided.

Lift every voice and sing was by the audience. Greetings were by Dr. John D. Fuller Sr. and The Honorable G.K. Butterfield Jr. The Blessing was by Rev. Nilous Avery II.

Dinner music was by "Voices for Christ," Fayetteville, N.C. Announcements were by Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.

Recognition of Special Guest was by Dr. Thomas L. Walker.

Presentation of Awards were by Rev. Norman T. Davis and Dr. Howard Parker. The recipients were Dr. James E. Arnette, Dr. James Deotis Roberts and Mrs. Ethel Smith.

The Honorable Loretta C. Biggs introduced the speaker; Dr. Benjamin S. Ruffin Music was by Voices for Christ.

(Continued from page one)

Dr. Ruffin's subject was "Rolling the Stone Away." The scripture reference was Luke 23:50-55. King's life was built on moving stones out of his way. He graduated from High School at age 15 and from Morehouse College at age 19. He was the first person in Atlanta, Georgia to receive a Nobel Prize.

Rosa Parks was a stone mover when she refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white man. There were 22 black people riding the bus. The black men moved. J.B. Blake was the bus driver and he had her put in jail. Her mother called a friend who was able to get her released from jail.

We have not always moved stones by ourselves. We have had help. We have always had a few white friends who would help us. On Sunday morning we would go to church and be motivated.

This is the 73rd birthday of Martin

Luther King Jr. and we still have stones to roll away. We have had many who put their lives on the line so that we could be free. We have the stone in our way because we are stones too. We spend 700 billion dollars a year. Twenty six percent of us make \$15,000 to \$25,000 a year and forty two percent are in poverty. We buy what we want and beg for what we need. If we respect what Martin did, we ought to get up and do something.

We have known terrorism all of our lives. If we love Martin we have to put something in the pocket. We need a foundation. What better contribution in memory of Dr. King would be to build a Civic Center?

We must support our colleges. Eighty percent of doctors and lawyers got their roots from Black Colleges.

Reflect on how our grandparents dealt with moving the stones. Go back home determined to move the stone in memory



Justice G.K. Butterfield

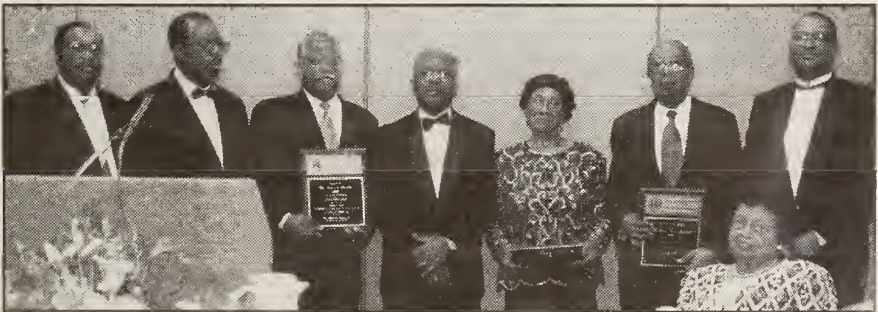
of Medgar Evers and Emmitt Gill, the 14 year old boy who was lynched.

Dr. Ruffin closed his message by reciting "His Eye Is On The Sparrow."

The closing hymn was "We Shall Overcome" and the Benediction was by Dr. John H. Grant.



Left to right: Dr. Logan; former Navassa Mayor Bobby Brown; Dexter Perry; Navassa Mayor Ellis Willis; and President Fuller.



Left to right: Dr. Parker, Dr. Fuller, Dr. Roberson, Dr. Bullock, Mrs. Smith, Dr. J.T. Roberts and Dr. Logan.

Women's Page Highlights

Easter: 'Peace Be Unto You'

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Brodie

"THE STRIFE IS O'ER, THE BATTLE DONE"

The strife is o'er, the bat-tle done; The vic-tory of life is won; O let the song of praise be sung, Al-le-lu-ia.

The pow'rs of death have done their worst, But Christ their le-gions hath dispersed; Let shouts of ho-ly joy out-burst, Al-le-lu-ia.

He closed the yawn-ing gates of hell; The bars from heav'n's high por-tals fell; Let hymns of praise His triumphs tell, Al-le-lu-ia.

Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed Thee, From death's dread string Thy servants free, That we may live and sing to Thee, Al-le-lu-ia.

Francis Pott

Yes, Easter reminds us that "the Strife is O'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won," for Jesus who died on the cross and was placed in the tomb, has arisen from the grave. Death was not strong enough to keep Him in the grave. The worst enemy of sin for mankind was de-feated. For all who believe on Jesus Christ the Lord shall have this victory and live with God forever and ever. Therefore, all who believe on Jesus can hear him say, "Peace be unto you," according to John 20:19-21.

These words of victory, Jesus spoke to His disciples. After having spoken to Mary Magdalene, He, later that evening, (the first day of the week), appeared through the shut doors to the room where His disciples were in fear of the Jews. Standing in the midst of them, He said unto them, "Peace be unto you." How glad the disciples were when they saw the Lord, Jesus, in their midst. No longer need they fear, for Jesus

was no longer in the grave-dead-, but He was alive. He was showing them signs of his cruci-fixion, places in his hands and sides. He was giving them their assignment: "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

What a joy to know that we have Easter, "Peace be unto you" (us), because Jesus is alive, has risen from the grave, has broken all yokes of sin, even death! He is life and He gives life (abundant life, eternal life). He gives us a new dimension to life, Easter — "Peace Be Unto You." This peace, if we believe on Jesus, em-braces all arenas of our lives and sets us free to serve Him and he in His presence forever, for no yoke can keep us in bondage or separation from God. **TO GOD BE THE GLORY! HAPPY EASTER! "PEACE BE UNTO YOU!" SO HAS HE, JESUS SPOKEN INTO OUR LIVES! ALLELUIA!**

1. **The State-Wide Leaders' Workshop** will convene for all departments at the Raleigh Civic Center on Saturday, April 6, 2002. The session begins at 9 a.m. However, registration begins at 8 a.m. for those who have not pre-registered. Registration is \$6 and pre-registra-tion is \$5. Please secure a pre-registration form from the office and return it with the funds by March 15, 2002. You may duplicate forms.

2. **The 22nd Ministers Wives/Widows' Re-treat** is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2002, at the Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill. All minister's wives/widows are invited. The advance fee for those who plan to come on Saturday is \$18. For those who come on Friday and spend the night, the advance fee is \$25. For those who come on Friday and spend the night, the on-site fee is \$26. (People who spend the night need to bring

bed linens and toiletries.) Please pick-up a form at the April Workshop or send to the office for one and return it April 19, 2002. On-site dona-tion is \$20 for Saturday only. There will be a class for ministers who accompany their wives. They (husbands) are asked to pay the same fees as given for the wives.

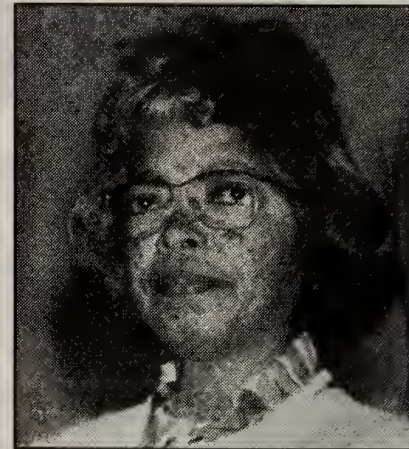
3. **The Leadership Training Conference** will convene the week of June 3-7, 2002 at the Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill. The fee is \$100 per person. Please send to the office for forms and return by May 12, 2002.

4. **The Youth Bible Camp** will be held June 9-14, 2002 (Week 1); June 16-21, 2002 (Week 2); June 23-28, 2002 (Week 3). The fee for the regular camper is \$160 and for the day camper is \$100. Campers are received on a first-come basis. The fee or a non-refundable deposit of \$10 must be sent along with the completed reg-istration form, health form, and parental or guardian statement form. Please contact the of-fice for forms.

5. **Self-Denial Envelopes** can be secured from the office. Funds should be sent to the of-fice prior to this year's Annual Session (See notice included).

6. **The 118th Annual Session Pre-Conven-tion Banquet Tickets** may be secured from the office now. Tickets in advance are \$30 and at the door, \$31. Please send your ticket request along with funds to the office.

7. **Housing Reservation Forms** for the 118th Annual Session are now available from the office. Please complete the form and send it



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

directly to the host hotel, Adam's Mark, Win-ston-Salem. The Annual Session Assembly will meet July 29-August 1, 2002 at the Benton Con-vention Center, Winston-Salem.

8. **The Young Adult Retreat** will meet at St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte, Dr. Gregory Moss, pastor, May 31-June 1, 2002. Please se-cure a form from the office and return by the given date.

9. **Our budget for fiscal year 2001-2002** is \$801,357 in terms of \$33,500 — Shaw Divin-ity School; \$49,500 — Shaw University; \$80,200 — Foreign Missions; \$36,500 — Cen-tral Children's Home; \$561,157 — State Mis-sions; \$40,500 — Baptist Assembly. Please send contributions for the Woman's Convention made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention. Please mail contributions and correspondence to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, N.C. 27602.

SELF-DENIAL OFFERING UPDATE

- That Seniors give a minimum of \$5 per year for Self-Denial (Seniors Denial for Mission — SSFM).
 - That Young Adults give Self-Denial (Young Adult Dollars for Mission — YADFM) also; no set amount of dollars was given.
 - That Youth give Self-Denial (Youth Quarters for Missions — YQFM) also.
- Officially Revised: Nov. 10, 2001

SELF-DENIAL OFFERING

(Minimum of \$5 Per Year)

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention
Our 118th Annual Session
To Be Held July 29-August 1, 2002
Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, N.C.

State Missions Foreign Missions Christian Education

Name _____

Address _____

Church _____ City _____

Amount _____ Department _____

Mrs. Julias McDonald, President
Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary
(Please change coins into currency or check)

Note: Please make all checks/money orders payable to the Woman's Baptist State Con-vention or Woman's Baptsit Home and Foreign Missionary Convention and send to Woman's Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, N.C. 27602.

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AUXILIARY TO GBSC • 2002 CALENDAR

MARCH	
31	Easter
APRIL	
6	Statewide Leaders' Workshop, Raleigh Civic Center
MAY	
4	Ministers' Wives and Widows Spring Retreat
JUNE	
1	Young Adults' Retreat
3-7	Leadership Training Conference, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
9-14	First Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
16-21	Second Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
22	Missions Prayer Day (County Unions, et. al.)
23-28	Third Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
JULY	
28-Aug. 1	Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Winston-Salem
AUGUST	
	(Prayer month for THE FAMILY)
24-31	Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention, New Orleans, La.
SEPTEMBER	
2-6	National Baptist Convention, Philadelphia, Pa.
28	Family Missions Conference, First Baptist, Oxford
OCTOBER	(Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)
12	WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters
NOVEMBER	
2	Youth Evangelism Conference, Halifax County Union, Host
4	World Day of Prayer (BWA — Woman's Department)
15	Shaw University Founder's Day Convocation
15-17	Ministers' Wives and Widows Fall Retreat
28	Thanksgiving Day
DECEMBER	
25	Christmas Day

MORE WOMEN'S NEWS

'God's Family Snapshot'

By Sisters Lloyd, Ferebee & Dunbar

On Saturday, January 12, 2002, missionaries from the mountains to the coast gathered at the Raleigh Convention and Civic Center for the Forty-ninth Annual One-Day Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina.

The Session opened as President Julias McDonald called the convention to order and with the congregation singing. Following were the worship and praise moments, led by Mrs. Cleo Bowden, the worship committee chairperson. The congregation joined in an inspirational and uplifting service of praise. The scriptural readings were by Mrs. Evelyn Jefferson and Mrs. Margaret Davis, and prayer by Mrs. Cleo Bowden, who also brought the theme message, "Transforming the Family Through Christian Communication." Presidential moments were given by President McDonald. Paying tribute to the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Mrs. Audrey Battle led the litany.

Greetings were brought from General Baptist State Convention by Dr. Charles Bullock, in the absence of Dr. John D. Fuller; by Dr. Talbert Shaw, president of Shaw University/Shaw Divinity School; and by Mrs. Phylisa Kelly and Mrs. Eve Greer from the Youth Bible Camp. Mrs. Diane Newell, representing the Congress of Christian Education, also gave greetings. Following the greetings, praises rang throughout the center as the congregation joined Mrs. Alice Greene in a joyous "Singspiration."

Dr. Cathy Gilliard, in the Bible study, gave helpful information regarding the family with emphasis on three points, Christian values, Christian worship, and Christian evangelism. A special presentation was made by Dr. Gladys Graves, Director of the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Scholarship Program. Dr. Graves emphasized the need for recruiting perspective teachers, especially minorities. Challenging the attendees to encourage their children, grandchildren and other family members to become teachers, she echoed this reminder, "Life Is a Classroom, But Who Will Teach Our Children?"

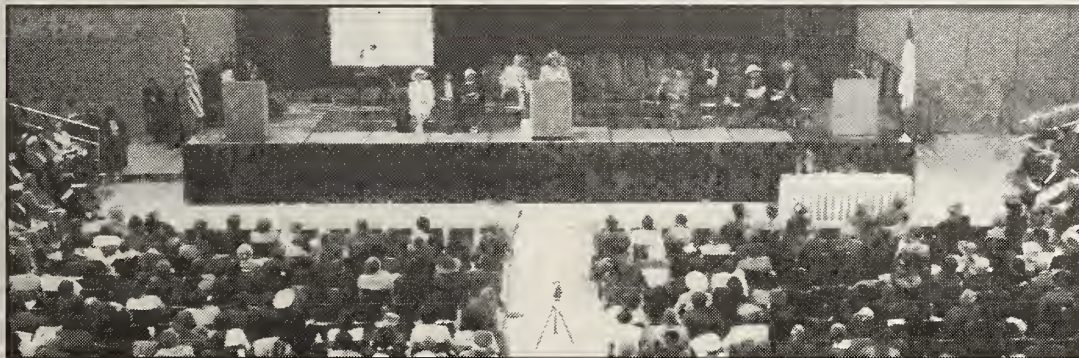
Recognitions were made by Mrs. Audrey P. Battle. Among those recognized were there-seven pastors and thirteen ministers/evangelists. Additionally, first-time attendees were presented. Having been vineyard workers, in their A-1 and Lydia Circles, as well as their Unions, Auxiliaries, and District conferences, many missionaries were recognized. A number of honorees who had receive twenty-five year service certificates came forward for recognition.

Executive Secretary Dr. Priscilla A.

Scenes from Jan. 12, 2002, 49th One-Day Session, Raleigh Civic Center, Raleigh



Left to right: 2nd Vice President, Audrey Battle, 3rd Vice President, Linda Inman, Youth Supervisor, Ellender LeMay, 1st Vice President, Bronnie Daniels, and President Julias McDonald. Young Adult Director Vanessa Gregory, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Priscilla A. Brodie, Young Adult Associate Director, Helen Judd, Past President, Shirley Bullock, 4th Vice President, Elizabeth Marrow, Past Presidents, Eva Johnson and Maggie White.



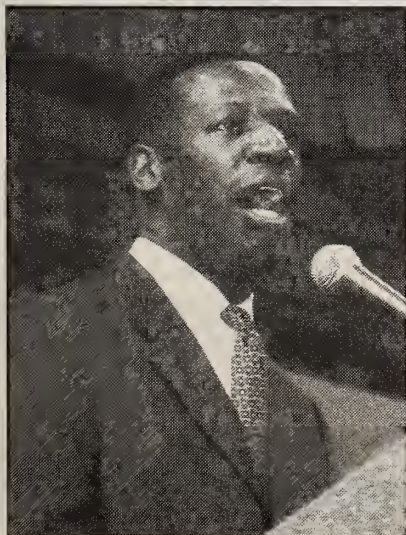
Panoramic View of Senior Department And Audience — President Julias McDonald, presiding.



Executive Secretary-Treasurer Priscilla A. Brodie, giving her report.



Dr. Gladys Graves, Director/NC Teaching Fellows Scholarship Program, guest speaker (member of Christian Faith Baptist Church, Raleigh).



Rev. Terry Taylor, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Stovall, preaching the sermon.

Brodie gave convention directives and the financial report. A summary of her report reflected a total budget of \$801,357, receipts of \$74,587.21, and need of \$726,769.76. She expressed gratitude for the support given and gave thanks and praises to God and to all who shared in His work. To God be the glory! Other reports included Committee on Committees and Christian Education Committee Reports by Mrs. Bonnie Daniels and Mrs. Brenda Jones, respectively. Third Vice-President Mrs. Linda Inman and Four Vice President Elizabeth Marrow made the Stewardship appeals for Soul-Winning and State Missions Offering.

The Stovall First Baptist Choir rendered a message in song prior to department presentations. Mrs. Vanessa Gregory, Young Adult Director, shared that two hundred and fifty young adults assembled in rejoicing and lifting the Name of Jesus. Youth Supervisor Ellender LeMay stated that eighty-nine supervisors, forty-eight youth presidents, sixty-one vice presidents, and two-hundred fifteen first-timers, along with twenty-five plus minister/pastors joined in praises to the Lord.

Dr. Willie S. Darby, Vice Moderator for the County Line Association, presented the minister scheduled to bring the message. A soul-stirring and inspirational sermon was delivered by the Rev. Terry Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church, Stovall, N.C. He shared the scriptural reading from Proverbs 21:23 and James 1:26. His subject was "Transforming the Family Through Christian Communications. He challenged the congregation to line up with the Word of God and charged that missionaries be real in what we do. He left this question to be answered. "If God were to take a picture, would you be in the snapshot?" An altar call was made, and Rev. Darby gave the altar prayer. The session closed with music by the choir and the benediction by Rev. Taylor.



Dr. Cathy Gilliard, Assistant to the Pastor, White Rock, Durham, presenting the Bible Study.

More 'Snapshots'
scenes on next page



MORE WOMEN'S NEWS



A-1 Auxiliary Representatives



Lydia Circle Representatives



Lydia District Conference Representatives



Pastors and Ministers attending the session.



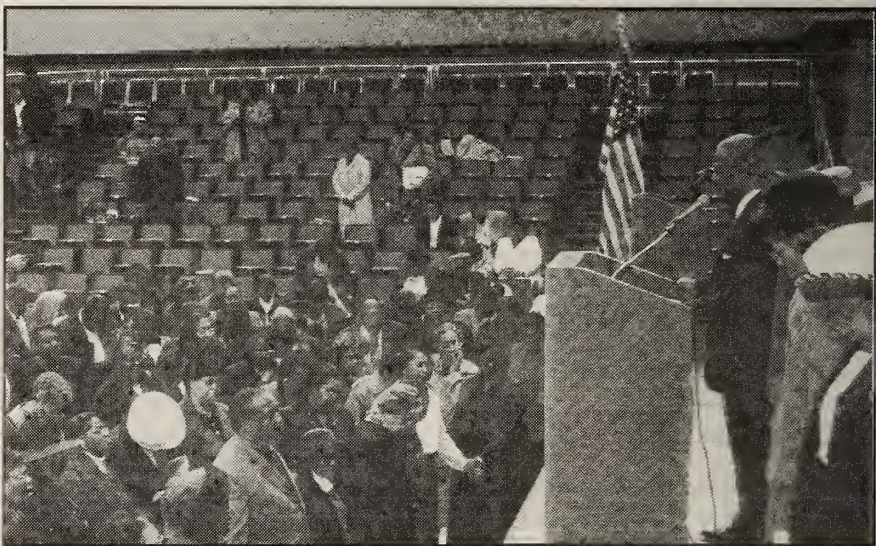
A-1 Union Representatives



Pastors and Ministers attending the session.



Lydia Union Representatives



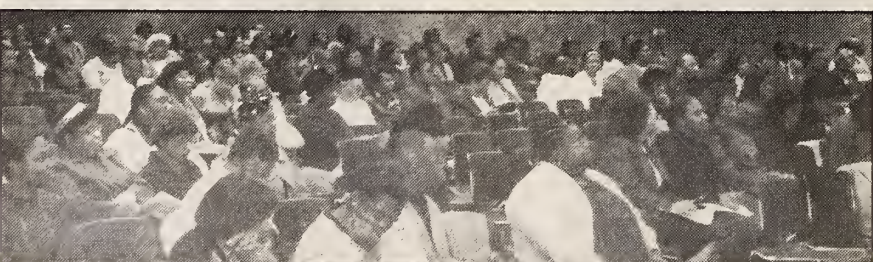
Altar call: Dr. Willie Darby, giving the prayer.



Lydia Auxiliary Representatives



Young Adult Officers: Ms. Vanesse Gregory, director, Mrs. Helen Judd, Associate Director, Ms. Anjanette Wall, 2nd Vice President, Mr. Antwahn Mangum, 3rd Vice President, Ms. Tilola Mitchell, Recording Secretary, Mrs. Eric Barnhill, President, Ms. Beverly Imes, Assistant Secretary, Mr. Sigmond Jenrette, Assistant Choir Director. Visiting for greetings, 3rd Vice President, Linda Inman.



Young Adult Department



Voices of Praise Choir — New Bethel, Winston-Salem

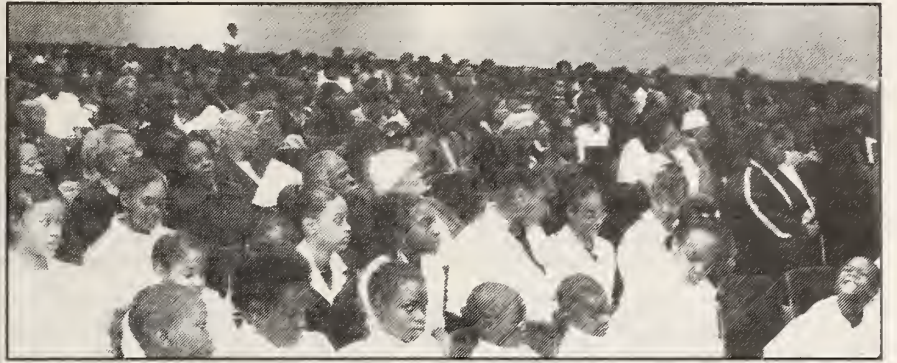
MORE WOMEN'S NEWS



1st Vice President Bronnie H. Daniels giving greetings to the Youth Department. Left to right: Marcus Bass, RéDydra S. Latta, George Metz, Vernice Lassiter, Supervisor Ellender LeMay, Associate Supervisor, Louise Lassiter, Maya Thompson and Brian Melton.



Youth Department: Ms. Jewelyn Dunn and Youth from St. Matthews, in Raleigh.



Youth Department

Food Drive To Be Held On Saturday, April 6, 2002

By Director Gregory

To help supplement the food supply of North Carolina, the Woman's Convention will sponsor a food drive on Saturday, April 6, 2002, during the Leadership Workshop, here at the Raleigh Convention and Civic Center.

This food drive will be coordinated by the Young Adult Department; however, we are asking all departments to bring non-perishable food items on that day. We solicit all types of non-perishable food items (be sure to monitor the expiration date). Food should include all types of can goods (vegetables, fruit, soup, beans, etc.), breakfast cereals (hot and cold) and dry goods such as pasta and rice. Please do not bring any items in glass containers.

Upon arriving at the Raleigh Convention and Civic Center, please drop off your food items at the front entrance. If you have large amounts of food, please drop off your food, prior to parking your vehicle. Young Adults will be on the outside to collect your food items and place them in containers provided by the Food Bank of North Carolina. These items will be placed in large food containers between 8 a.m. and 12 noon. The Food Bank of North Carolina will pick up the food containers at noon. If you are not planning to attend the leadership workshop, but live in the Raleigh area, you can drop off your food item in front of the Civic Center. Young Adults will meet you at your car to receive your items.

We are requesting that each District Conference Chairperson, assist us in spreading the

news of bringing these items on Saturday, April 6, 2002. Please have this information included all newsletters in your church, auxiliary, county/city, associations and district conferences. Also, we plan to announce the Food Drive on local radio stations in various areas.

Our goal is 2,000 pounds of food; therefore, we are encouraging you to tell others about this outreach project. If each of one of us brings at least one pound of food (most cans of food weigh from 14 to 16 ounces each), we can fill the containers. Each container provided by the Food Bank will hold 500 cans of food.

If you have questions or would like someone to remind you to bring the non-perishable food items on April 6, 2002, please contact one of the Young Adult Officers or Directors Gregory or Judd, so that we can make arrangements to have a Young Adult Officer in your area pick up the food items. If you know that you will not be able to attend on April 6, 2002, please purchase the non-perishable food items and ask a friend to bring it for you.

We are excited about this outreach mission project. We have already asked God to guide us in reaching across the State of North Carolina. James 2:15 & 16 "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warned and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

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THE NEHEMIAH PRAYER CHAIN

of the

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention
of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, Inc.

Initiated at the Leadership Training Conference

J.J. Baptist Assembly, June 10, 1999

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

"Every time I feel the Spirit, I'll Pray"

Participating Counties

Anson, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Durham, Hertford, Hoke, Iredell, Jones, Mecklenburg, Onslow, Orange, Scotland, Stanley, Union and Vance.

Each county should have prayer warriors committed to the chain that pray every time the Spirit says pray for our families, Woman's Convention, churches and our youth.

Designated times to pray:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 12 noon
and any other time that the Spirit says so.

Scriptures

Acts 12:5, James 4:21, 1 John 5:14-15, Ephesians 6:18, John 3:22, Luke 18:1, James 5:16, John 14:13-14, Acts 1:14; 2:1-4, 41-42

The Prayer Warriors Chain encourages any persons who desire to become a link in the chain to do so anytime you care to.

We all need to stay prayed up!

Jesus might come anytime!

Mrs. Robbie Diggs, chairperson

Mrs. Colene Stanley, co-chairperson



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135th YEAR CELEBRATION STATEWIDE CHURCH MUSIC CONFERENCE

APRIL 25-27, 2002

St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church

Morehead City, N.C. 28577

Rev. S. Barrow III, Pastor

HIGHLIGHTS

- *YOUTH PRAISE DANCERS
- *SIGN LANGUAGE FOR WORSHIP
- *HANDS-ON PIANO TECHNIQUES
- *INTRODUCING THE NEW AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE HYMNAL
- *VOCAL TECHNIQUES FOR CHOIRS
- *BODY & SOUL HEALTH ISSUES

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION MUSIC CONFERENCE

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., President GBSC

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Mrs. Octavia Ivory, Music Conference Coordinators

April 25-27, 2002

Registration/Representation Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Pastor _____

Association _____

Phone Number Church () _____ - _____

Phone Number Pastor () _____ - _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Your Phone () _____ - _____ Website _____

E-mail address _____

Personal Registration: \$30 per person

Number of messengers: \$30 each Amount \$ _____

Church Representation: \$100 Amount \$ _____

GBSC Music Conference

Please send registration form to: BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS

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Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Dr. H.C. Miller, Evangelism Chairman

April 15-18, 2002

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Pastor _____

Association _____

Phone Number Church () _____ - _____

Phone Number Pastor () _____ - _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Your Phone () _____ - _____ Website _____

E-mail address _____

Personal Registration: \$15 per person

Number of messengers: \$15 each Amount \$ _____

Church Representation: \$100 for the year Amount \$ _____

Please send registration form to: BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS

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N.C. Council of Churches Seminar Focuses on Economic Divide

Submitted by Carol J. Smith

Associate Editor

The chasm between rich and poor and its many implications for our lives are the basis for the North Carolina of Churches' 2002 Critical Issues Seminar, which will take place April 9 in Greensboro. "The Gap Between Rich and Poor: Dives and Lazarus Today" is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Experts from across the state will address topics ranging from the symbolism of the World Trade Center as a terrorist target to the personal response of living simply to help close the economic gap.

The title of the seminar is based on the biblical parable of a rich man, Dives, whose wealth cannot save his soul, and Lazarus, who suffers

great poverty on earth but goes on to feast in heaven.

"Many American Christians should be made nervous by this passage," said George Reed, Executive Director of the Council. "If Jesus were auditioning us for parts in the story, most of us wouldn't be Lazarus. Many of us qualify as what Ron Sider, decades ago, called 'rich Christians in an age of hunger.'"

"With more than one million people in North Carolina living below the poverty line and 1.2 billion people worldwide living on \$1 or less per day, the Council's work for justice must focus on closing the gap between those who have so much and the many who have so little."

For more additional information about the seminar or to attend, please contact the Council offices at 919-828-6501.

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LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Laymen Mid-Annual Session

By Romas L. Hales

The time for the State Laymen's League Mid-Annual Banquet and One-Day Session is fast approaching. We hope you are making plans to attend.

The Mid-Annual Banquet will be held on Friday, April 12, 2002 at 7 p.m. at the Mountain and Catawba Training and Fellowship Center, 3370 Reid Circle, Sherrill's Ford, N.C. 28673.

The telephone number for the center is (828) 478-5424. The Banquet tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for youth twelve and under. You may purchase tickets from Bap-

tist Headquarters, Laymen or at the door. We hope most of you will purchase your tickets in advance for adequate preparation purpose. We certainly hope you will attend.

The One-Day Session will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2002 at the Mountain and Catawba Training and Fellowship Center in Sherrill's Ford, N.C. The day will start with a Fellowship Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Registration will start and the Executive Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. The regular session will start at 9:30 a.m.

The host church for the session is the New Prospect Baptist Church, Sherrill's

Ford, N.C. where Rev. J. Saner serves as pastor. This is also the church of the State Laymen's League Fourth Vice President and Youth Director Brother Gregory Gabriel. Let us be there in large numbers to support our president, vice president and program participants.

Sherrill's Ford is located south of Statesville off I-77 South near Mooresville on Highway 150 west. Detail directions will be mailed out at a later date.

If you are planning to spend the night of April 12, 2002 you can make reservations at one of the two motels:

Fairfield Inn

Mooresville, N.C.

I-77 Exit 36

(704) 663-6100

\$52 plus tax per room

Sleep Inn and Sweep

Mooresville, N.C.

I-77 Exit 36

(704) 799-7070



Romas Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

\$62.95 plus tax per room

There are other motels at the same exit.

This year each church has been asked to give an annual assessment of \$400. If your church has not done so, please bring it or one half of it to the Mid-Annual Session. We hope this will be a successful session in attendance and financially. Please send a representative from your church. Registration is \$10 per person.

May God continue to bless you.

Laymen's League 2002 Calendar of Events

March 9, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen's League Study Commission Meeting First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
April 12, 2002	7 p.m. Laymen's Mid Annual Banquet New Prospect Baptist Church Sherrill's Ford, NC
April 13, 2002	8:30-9:30 a.m. Registration 9:30 a.m. Session Laymen's Mid Annual One Day Session New Prospect Baptist Church Sherrill's Ford, NC
May 18, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen Mini-Skills Exhibit J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
June 8, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen's Study Commission Meeting Genesis Baptist Church Greensboro, NC
July 10-11, 2002	First Retreat Laymen and Boys Summer Retreat J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
July 12-13, 2002	Second Retreat J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
July 15-16, 2002	Laymen Annual Session Martin Street Baptist Church Raleigh, NC
Aug. 23-25, 2002	Laymen Scouting Camporee J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
Sept. 14, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen's Men Retreat J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
Dec. 14, 2002	10 a.m. Laymen's Study Commission Meeting Jones Chapel Baptist Church Laurinburg, NC

NEW BOOK

Title: Death and Dying Among African-Americans: Cultural Characteristics and Coping Tidbits

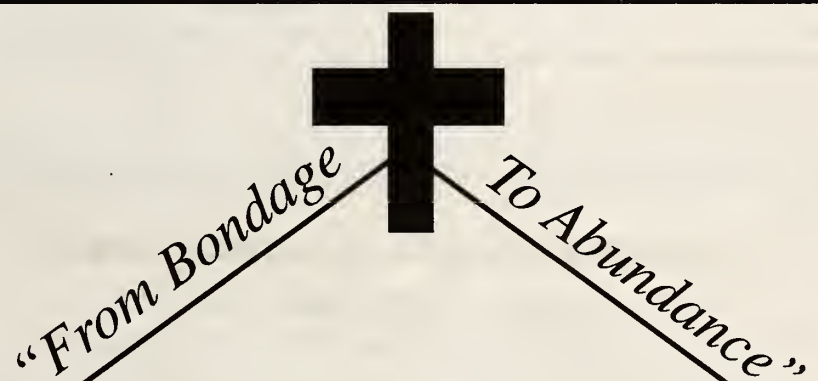
Author: James H. Carter, M.D., MDiv.

An-eye-opening exposition about death and dying that will benefit ministers, counselors, morticians, and persons who are suffering and are seeking strategies for coping with tragedies of death and dying.

Dr. Carter writes from decades of experience as a practicing physician, and describes how suffering, death and dying are experienced among African-Americans. Some of the topics discussed are: Whom do we trust when troubled, final days, alternatives to dying with dignity and a Christian's perspective on counseling and condoling suffering African-Americans.

Dr. Carter is an African-American Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina. He has authored many publications on the emotional health of African-Americans.

Purchases may be made by calling 212-736-1767 or by mail order from Vantage Press, 516 West 34th Street, New York, New York, 10001, cost: \$10.95.



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UPDATE: ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Introducing Alexis and Tenesha:

Alexis and Tenesha are friendly, loving girls who like people and get along well with everyone.

A Closer Look at Alexis:

Alexis is a very artistic young lady who enjoys singing, drawing and writing. She is very visual in her writing and has learned to write her dreams and feelings in a journal. Alexis is a sweet child with a great sense of humor. She believes in God and has always been active in church.

Alexis does well in school, but she needs adult supervision to keep her on track. She takes medications to help her stay focused and to control her feelings. She also attends counseling to help her through feelings of anxiety, depression, loss, grief and separation. Alexis would benefit from becoming involved in activities, such as singing in the choir, to help build her self-esteem.

A Closer Look at Tenesha:

Tenesha loves to act in school plays. She is also artistic and likes to draw people. Tenesha is a sweet young girl with an excellent attitude. She also believes in God and loves church activities.

Tenesha's behaviors have greatly improved through counseling to the extent that she no longer needs to attend on a regular basis. She does well in school and will continue to do so with support and encouragement.

A Family for Alexis and Tenesha:

Alexis and Tenesha have very strong



ALEXIS Birthday: July 15, 1990
TENESHA Birthday: April 17, 1993

faith and it is important that their adoptive family be Christian and involved with church. Their new parents should provide them with a home full of love and encouragement, with supervision and involvement with their daily school and outside activities. (NC #026-1127) (NC #026-1128)

For more information on these children or adoption, in general, call the NC Kids tollfree hotline at 1-877-625-4371.

Dr. Joseph Paige Sr. Passes

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Joseph C. Paige Sr., son of the late Bennie and Elnora Fuller Paige was born on February 8, 1930 in Siler City, N.C., where he grew up in a family of twelve siblings. He was the nephew of the late Dr. William H. Fuller, former pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Durham, N.C. Dr. Paige departed this life at home late Saturday night, January 19, 2002 with his wife at his side. Dr. Paige leaves behind a vast legacy of achievements and accomplishments.

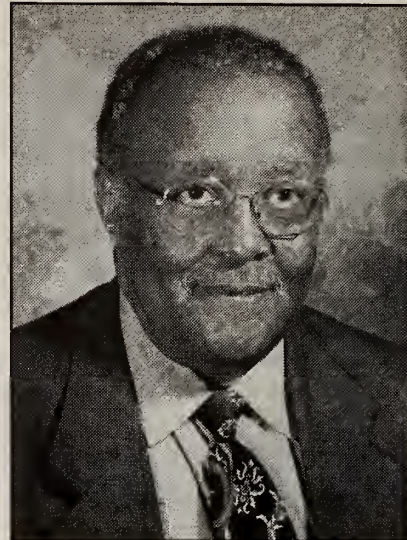
He received his early childhood, intermediate and high school education in the public schools of Chatham County, N.C. He graduated from Chatham High School in Siler City (then Chatham County Training School), in 1945. Dr. Paige was a graduate of A&T State University, graduating at the age of eighteen. He earned a Master of Education degree from Boston University and Doctor of Education degree from the American University, Washington, D.C. He had studied at Harvard University, where he was a DuPont Fellow, and he was a National Science Foundation Fellow at Tufts University. He earned a "Certificate in Theology of Professionals," and a Master of Divinity degree from Shaw Divinity School, where he also received the Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree.

Dr. Paige was serving as pastor of Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church of Bunn, N.C. and would have celebrated his thirteenth anniversary on January 20, 2002. Through his leadership and vision many ministries were developed. He instituted a successful program of Pastoral Counseling which reached out to the Bunn Community and within and beyond his Church Family.

Dr. Joseph C. Paige was a former President, Shaw Divinity School, where he also served as Executive Vice President, Interim President, Interim Provost/Dean, Director of Development, and a tenured Professor of Practical Theology. He was recently appointed a six-year term as Adjunct Professor; Department of Nutrition, School of Public Health, UNC — CH. He also had an appointment in the school of Nursing, UNC — CH. He served as faculty representative on the Board of Trustees, Shaw Divinity School. He was First Vice Moderator of the Middle Baptist Association, GBSC, and former President of the Franklin County Friends of Black Children Community Council, Inc. He was also director of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and a member of the Board of Directors of BROAD, Inc. of Bunn.

Dr. Paige was former President of the World Council on Religious Liberty, an international organization dedicated to the promotion and encouragement of understanding and tolerance on matters of differences in religion practices and beliefs, and the elimination of all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or beliefs. In this capacity, he traveled worldwide in association with agencies and activities of the United Nations, and other international organizations. He was recognized internationally as an expert on religious liberty, world religions, new religions and new religious movements, and was frequently invited to serve as a mediator in these areas, worldwide, when problems arose.

He was the founding chairpersons of the Rural Church Committee of the General Baptist State Convention and served as chairman for 12 years. He was also an Associate Chaplain of the World Conference of Mayors, and a member of the National Advisory Board of the American Freedom



Dr. Joseph C. Paige Sr.

Coalition.

He had held faculty/administrative positions at Bethune-Cookman College (Florida), Edward Waters College (Florida), Howard University (Washington, D.C.), Federal City College (now the University of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.), American University (Washington, D.C.), and Wayne State University (Detroit).

Dr. Paige was host of the Shaw Divinity School Hour, a weekly public affairs radio program on WSHA, Shaw University Radio for more than ten years. He had also hosted the weekly Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church radio program, WHLQ & WRYN Louisburg radio station.

He was former Host and Executive Producer of the Joe Paige Show, a weekly NBC TV Public affairs presentation on Channel 4, Washington, D.C., and host of What's Happening, a weekly NBC-Radio minority-oriented public affairs program.

Dr. Paige was a former columnist for The Sanford Herald, a daily afternoon newspaper and has written extensively for other newspapers and periodicals.

Dr. Paige was a world traveler, having traveled extensively in Europe, Africa, Asia and South America. He was generally respected as an expert on South Africa and Asian affairs, and was a frequent "trouble-shooter" in dealing with concerns in these areas.

He was believed to be among the nation's top successful business entrepreneurs and was generally well respected as a bottom line, no-nonsense person, renowned for his business successes, Christian philanthropy and generosity.

He leaves to mourn his loving wife, Dorothy; six children, Jo-Ellen Paige of Raleigh, Tia Demby-Ulmer (Greg) of Durham, Joseph Paige Jr. of Alexandria, VA, Edward Paige (Beverly) of Maulden, S.C., Hiawatha Demby (Karen) of Chapel Hill, and Harold Demby (LaPonda) of Raleigh; nine grandchildren, Jay Paige, Adam Paige, DeLorean Clark, Katherina Demby, Justin Paige, Kenneth Demby, Chelsea Ulmer, Carmen Ulmer, Andrea Demby; his ex-wife Eleanor Paige of Greenville, S.C.; two sisters; Mrs. Shirley Kearney of Greensboro, Mrs. Delois Bell (George) of Southfield, MI; five brothers, Mr. Bennie Franklin Jr. (Myrtle) of Silver City, Mr. Alcana Paige of Siler City, Mr. Graphel Paige (Mae) of Siler City, Mr. Otha Paige of Boston, MA, and Mr. Henry Paige (Cathy) of Boston, MA; one aunt, Mrs. Mattie Paige of Siler City; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Funeral services were held at 12 noon Wednesday, Shaw University, Boyd Chapel, Raleigh, N.C. Burial was at 2 p.m. Saturday, Lamberts Chapel Cemetery, Siler City, N.C.

A Challenge from the Director of Church Relations!

Attention all African-American Singles and African-American Couples!

Bridge the gap to permanency through Adoption and Foster Care!

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is a church based effort designed to help identify African-American Singles and couples who are interested in adopting African-American children or becoming foster parents. We are anxious to make a real difference and we can do this only with your help.

The time is now, to do more for the children. I challenge you this year to make the difference in the life of a child in the North Carolina Child Welfare System. Start by making the first move to adoption or foster care.

North Carolina needs your help! Support this ministry by becoming an adoptive parent or a foster care parent and volunteer to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African American Children. With your help, we can make a difference in the life of a child. Please contact me for more information on what you can do to help make a difference in a child's life. You may write me:

Rev. Anthonette Wright

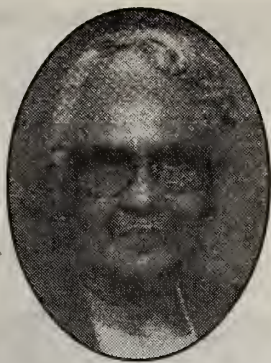


Rev. Anthonette Wright

Director of Church Relations
211 Six Forks Road Suite 209-B
Raleigh, N.C. 27609 or

E-mail me; Nwrightgbsc@aol.com or
telephone me; 919-754-8800





Delcie Susie Belle Cureton Johnson

Delcie Susie Belle Cureton Johnson was born July 4, 1916 in Walhalla, S.C. She died January 17, 2002. Funeral services were held January 22, 2002, 12 noon at Martin Street Baptist Church. Presiding was Dr. Charles T. Bullock, Pastor.

She was the ninth of ten children born to John C. and Carrie Mae Daniels Cureton. As a youth, she won just about every spelling "B" in the area. Also, she was an outstanding athlete, starring in track in junior high school and playing guard on the basketball team. At an early age she gave her life to Christ at the Flat Rock Baptist Church in Walhalla.

Mrs. Johnson was a graduate of the Mary Potter High School in Oxford, N.C. She went on to graduate from Friendship Junior College in Rock Hill, S.C. where she was a member of the Alpha Phi Tau Society. In 1953 she received her B.A. degree in Elementary Education from Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C. and then worked as a public school teacher.

Mrs. Johnson was united in holy matrimony to the late Paul Harold Johnson on April 20, 1941 in Walhalla. From 1943 to 1982 she worked alongside her husband as the "First Lady" of Martin Street Baptist

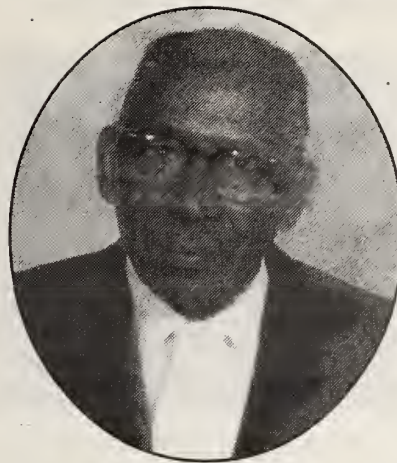
Church. Some of her many activities in the church included President of the Woman's Auxiliary, Advisor to the Youth Choir, Children's Choir, Children's Group and Youth Group. She was a teacher in the B.T.U. and in the Sunday School, serving for many years as the teacher of the Esther Progressive Class. Also, she was a member of the Choral Choir for several years.

Locally, she was a charter member of the Raleigh Ministers Wives and Widows Association and was a former president of that organization.

Mrs. Johnson was characterized by her husband as a "loving wife and mother." She was spiritually gifted with a sweet, sweet spirit that endeared her to so many people. She departed this world on Thursday, January 17 at the Heartfields Assisted Living Home in Cary, N.C. surrounded by family and a very special and loving caregiver, Marilyn Ross. Mrs. Johnson was also blessed by the faithful care of a longtime family physician, Dr. George Debnam.

Surviving members of the family include: daughter, Nita J. Byrd (Kevin), Cary, N.C.; sons, Paul H. Johnson Jr., Goldsboro, N.C., and Cureton L. Johnson (Lena), Fayetteville, N.C.; sister, Melvere C. Warren, Troy, AL; brother, Elias Henson Cureton (Lula Mae), Walhalla, S.C.; grandchildren, Vernetta C. Alexander (Allen), Raleigh, N.C., Paul L. Johnson (Courtney), Winston-Salem, N.C., Cureton M. Johnson, Washington, D.C., and Phenix D. Byrd, Cary; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws and a special friend of 50 years, Mrs. Mary S. Greene.

OBITUARIES



Paul Green Davis

Paul Green Davis, son of the late William Edward Davis and Hattie Alston Davis, was born in Warren County, June 7, 1910 and departed this life, Thursday, January 10, 2002 at 12:15 a.m. in the loving comfort of his daughter's home in Carrboro, N.C.

Funeral services were Sunday, January 13, 2002, 2:30 p.m. at Union Grove Baptist Church, Warrenton, N.C. Presiding were Rev. Herbert Eaton, and Rev. Anthony Cozart.

His spiritual birth began at age ten at Edwards Grove Baptist Church in 1920. As a young lad he taught Sunday School and sang in the choir. He received his formal education in the Warren County Schools and later attended Shaw University Divinity School continuing Education Program. After graduation, because of his endless thirst for more spiritual knowledge, he continued attending weekly classes for thirty-one years. He was appointed Dean of his class and shared his wealth of knowledge with everyone he encountered.

Rev. Davis was married to the late Bettie Beatrice Games in 1931. To this union eight children were born. He was preceded in death by two adult children, Mary D. Caldwell and Timothy Davis and two children in infancy.

Rev. Davis entered the Prison Ministry in 1943 and served for fifteen years as Chaplain of the Warren County Prison. He preached every second Sunday and taught Sunday School at the Prison for thirteen years. He became the Pastor of Heck Grove Baptist in 1943.

In 1944 he became the Pastor of Belton Creek Baptist Church, Oxford, N.C. and the Olive Grove Baptist Church where he served as Pastor for forty-four years. In 1965 Edwards Grove Baptist Church and Hecks Grove Baptist Church merged together and became the Union Grove Baptist Church and Rev. Davis remained as the Pastor for forty-eight years. He also pastored the Greenwood Baptist Church, Boydton, Virginia for sixteen years.

He served as Secretary of the Raleigh Durham and vicinity Ministers Alliance for twenty-five years. Also, served on the General Board of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. for thirty years and Secretary of the Original Shiloh Association for thirty years, Secretary of the Ministers and Deacons association for twenty years and Moderator of the Association for eight years. Rev. Davis worked with the Warren Negro Community Center for over sixty years. He served as member and chairman of the Board many of those years. He was involved in the County wide PTA program and the Warren County Negro Credit Union.

After the death of his wife, he married Annie H. Williams in 1981. He leaves to cherish his memories his wife, Annie H. Davis, Philadelphia, PA; four children; Carrie D. Bynum, (Chester) Carrboro, N.C.; Rev. Norman T. Davis, (Juanita), Apex, N.C.; Constance D. Williams (Braska) Newport News, VA, and Kenneth I. Davis (Elizabeth), Chapel Hill, N.C., one stepson, Melvin Williams, (Marie), Brooklyn N.Y.; and one step-daughter, Carolyn Jones, (Faulkner), Philadelphia, PA; twelve grandchildren; eighteen great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren; one daughter-in-law, Jeanette Davis, White Plains, VA; one son-in-law, Hilliard Caldwell, New Orleans, LA; one sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary L. Davis, Warrenton, N.C. and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.



Ceremony of Dedication of First Baptist and Manley Estates Supportive Housing for Senior Citizens

A Ministry of First Baptist Church,
the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service,
and the United Church of Chapel Hill

By Archie D. Logan Jr.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

On Sunday, January 27, 2002 at 3 p.m. the dedication was held.

Greetings and remarks were given by Dr. William Friday, President Emeritus, UNC; Rev. Dr. A.D. Logan, N.C. Baptist Convention; Mr. Kevin Foy, Mayor, Town of CH or Town of CH rep; Mr. Barry Jacobs, Chair, Orange County Commission and Dr. Ted Parrish, Pine Knolls Development Corp.

First Baptist and Manley Estates, 41-units of supportive housing for senior citizens, was initiated and developed by a partnership of congregations and institutions in Chapel Hill. The First Baptist Church, the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service, and the United Church of Chapel Hill have worked together since 1999 to develop this housing through a \$3.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through its Section 202 program. Other examples of this type of

housing are Adelaide Walters Apartments on Airport Rd. and Covenant Place on Culbreth Rd. in Carrboro. The governments of Orange County and the Town of Chapel Hill provided additional and generous support.

First Baptist and Manley Estates is the result of partnerships: partnerships between two congregations and a faith-based social service agency, partnership with the federal government, partnership with Orange County, Partnership with the Town of Chapel Hill, a partnership between the residents and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and, for the members of the two congregations and the faith-based agency, a partnership with God. Partnership is community building. Partnership is a dual blessing: first by what is accomplished—First Baptist and Manley Estates—and second, be the community that is built among the partners.

We appreciate the leadership of past President Rev. Dr. J.R. Manley, and the First Baptist Church Family

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in the skies!*



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New Pastor's Corner

Know Your Purpose

By
Rev. Sandra Holland Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church,
Fayetteville, NC



Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter

The purpose of something is the reason for which it exist or the manufacturer's original intent for making it. Thus, the purpose of a thing cannot be discovered by asking another thing. Only the manufacturer knows why he created the product the way he did.

God is your source/manufacturer. He knows why he gave you life and endowed you with the personality, talents and ambitions that made you unique. A sense of purpose gives life meaning. It moves you beyond existence to a life of productivity. As leaders chosen by God, we have a divine purpose.

In the book of Joshua the first chapter, God gave Joshua all the instructions he needed for the rest of his life in the first nine verses. Joshua knew his purpose, before the death of Moses, he knew he would lead the children of Israel to the promised land.

If you don't know your purpose, it is impossible to fulfill it. Thus the release of your potential requires that you learn why God created you. Everything you are is related to your purpose — your talents, gifts and desires.

God gave us everything we need to fulfill our purpose. God doesn't want you to look like someone else. He wants you to be you and no one else.

Having God's nature is the difference between looking lovely and being lovely

or looking handsome and being handsome. One refers to your outward appearance, the other to your nature. You may look religious, but act like the world. God wants you to be the person he has created you to be.

Whenever God gives you a responsibility, He also gives you the ability to meet that responsibility. If God tells you to do something he knows you can do it. So don't you dare tell God that you can't, because God has built into you the potential to produce everything He calls for. Moreover, whom he did predestinate them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified, and whom he justified, them he also glorified. What shall we say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us. (Romans 8:30-31).

Find your purpose and walk in it. Life is short; we must work while its day when night comes no man can work.

If you can conceive it, you can do it. It doesn't matter if it's never been done — if you think it you can do it. If you never think it, you can never do it.

Find your purpose and walk in it!

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A Call To Greatness

(Book Announcement)

In 1970, L. Venchael Booth, was appointed a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance nine years after he founded the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC). PNBC is one of 13 member bodies of the BWA in the United States and Canada.

Now, in recognition of the groundbreaking work of his father who started this historic denomination, Booth's son, William D. Booth, has written *A Call to Greatness*. Booth is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hampton, Va.

Among the reviews are these:

..."this book is important for several reasons...it provides a survey of the divisions...that produced a new denomination known as the Progressive National Baptist Convention...it is a valiant tribute of a son to a father...and acknowledgment that amid the pain and brokenness of schism...one truth remains: 'the greatest of these is love.' -Bill J. Leonard, Dean and Professor of Church History, Wake Forest Divinity School.

"From the distinct, unique and even privileged vantage point of someone who lived close to the historical drama about which he writes, William D. Booth has produced a most persuasive and moving essay about the actual founder of Progressive National Baptist Convention."

- Clarence G. Newsome, Dean and Associate Professor of Church History, Howard University School of Divinity, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

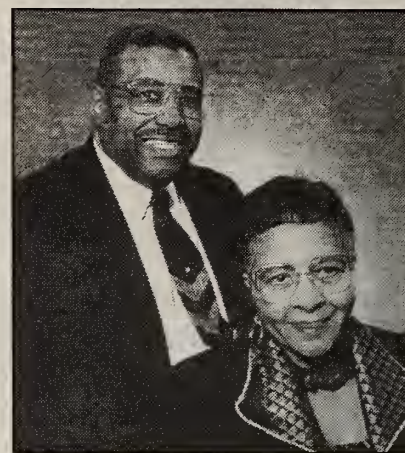
To order *A Call to Greatness*, contact: Brunswick Public Corporation

PO Box 555, Lawrenceville, Va. 23868

Website: www.brunswickbooks.com

Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of Pastor & Mrs. Norman T. Davis

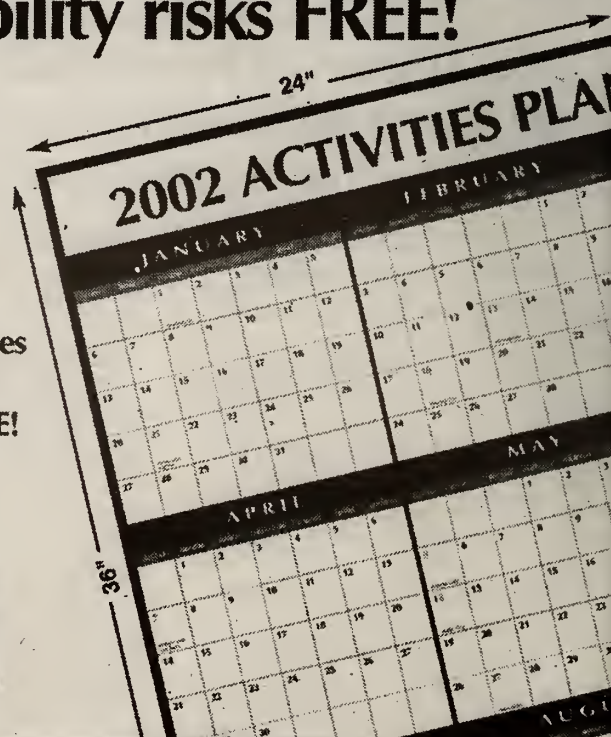
Celebration was
held on
Saturday, Feb. 2,
2002 at 5 p.m.
at Bazzel Creek
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From 2nd Vice President Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

News from the Foreign Field: The Lott Carey Convention

A New Era Of Missions: HIV/AIDS Initiative

Rev. Lott Carey led his pioneering mission team to sail from Norfolk, Va., in 1821 to West Africa where he eventually settled and served in Liberia. Once again, Norfolk was the port of departure for a new era of Christian missions when the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention began a new voyage of missions during its Annual Session in Norfolk, Va., in September 2000 as the Convention launched its new HIV/AIDS Initiative.

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention has committed itself to a substantial faith-based response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic that is ravishing the African continent. The Greater St. Paul Baptist Church, Durham, N.C. (Dr. William H. Height, Pastor) and the Trinity Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio (Rev. Victor Davis, Pastor) provided gifts that allowed Lott Carey to sponsor a conference at the Baptist Theological Seminary of Zimbabwe, located in the Midlands city of Gweru. Zimbabwe is being overwhelmed by the magnitude of the pandemic. Some estimates hold that one in every four Zimbabweans is infected with HIV/AIDS.

The conference brought together pastors, pastors' spouses, church leaders, community health workers, medical personnel, and educators from various parts of Zimbabwe. They focused on cultivating positive responses to persons infected with HIV/AIDS; identifying accessible resources already in place in the country; essential training about prevention, treatment, and advocacy; and began developing specific proposals for responding to the crisis through local church communities.

A grant to help fund Lott Carey's HIV/AIDS Initiative was provided by the Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, Va. Alfred Street's Pastor, Dr. John O. Peterson Sr., is also the President of the Lott Carey



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.

Convention. Dr. Ronald Johnson, Chairman of the Trustees Ministry of Alfred Street Baptist Church announced that the church was committing \$75,000 to help the Initiative begin and made the initial presentation of the church's financial pledge.

Lott Carey has made two critical decisions to insure the success of the HIV/AIDS Initiative. First, the organization has called Rev. Samuel Nixon Jr., to serve as the full time HIV/AIDS Director. He comes to Lott Carey from a successful tenure of organizing affiliates with the Congress of National Black Churches, Inc., and will be responsible for organizing and overseeing Lott Carey's efforts to develop successful ministry models and secure additional multi year funding with interested partners for this effort. Second, the Convention voted to incorporate Lott Carey International (LCI) as its vehicle through which the HIV/AIDS Initiative will be executed. LCI is the Convention's faith based, not for profit, relief, development, and advocacy agency.

Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The Camp is by Invitation Only. Boys and Girls ages 10 - 19 are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison.

Players from 48 states and 7 foreign countries attended the 2001 Camp. College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team.

Camp locations include: Boiling Springs, N.C.; Thousand Oaks, CA; Babson Park, FL; Gainesville, GA; Champaign, IL; Greencastle, IN; Dubuque, LA; Hillsdale, MI; Saint Paul, MN; Rochester, NY; North Canton, OH; Lock Haven, PA; Bristol, RI; Athens, TN; Commerce, TX; Blacksburg, VA; Olympia, WA.

There is also a Team All Star Camp for School and A.A.U. Teams.

Team camp locations include: Boiling Springs, N.C.; Thousand Oaks, CA; Babson Park, FL; Greencastle, IN; Hillsdale, MI; Lock Haven, PA; Blacksburg, VA.

For a free Brochure, call (704) 568-6801, anytime.

Tree of Knowledge

By Rev. Dennis Brown
GBSC Field Worker

As we strive toward Kingdom Building and doing that which we have been commissioned to do we have one of the greatest resources available within our own General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, which is the General Baptist Bookstore. To make it more user friendly there are several options available.

We strongly believe that the more we know the more we are able to do. For years we have always thought the grass was greener on the other side, until we got to the other side and looked back only to realize our grass was greener and our trees stood taller and fuller. Look at the tree of opportunities in our GBSC. Psalm 1:3 says, "And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

How beautiful it would be to become a branch of the GBSC Bookstore. John 14:2 says, "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away, and every branch that beareth fruit he purgeth it; that it may bring forth more fruit. So as the Son of righteousness shines down upon the roots of the tree it draws the sap up to nurture the branches. The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon,"

Psalm 92:12.

"So we say with the Apostle Paul; I have planted, Apolos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth anything neither he that watereth but God giveth increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor," I Corinthians 3:6, 7 & 8.

As we strive to make 2002 a year of celebration and remembrance what will our Lord say unto us with the talents he has entrusted to us. For there is the need for the Bookstore. The ground is good ground, the local churches and associations. The talent is with the willing workers within our churches. So again I ask, what will our Lord say unto us?

If your Association or Church would like to have a Satellite Bookstore, please contact Dr. Jimmie Whitehurst, Executive Manager at 800-639-GBSC, or 919-839-2211 or come in and visit one of our two sites. We are located at the General Baptist Bookstore, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C. and St. Stephens Missionary Baptist Church Book Store, 501 York Street, Elizabeth, N.C. 27909.

Psalm 1:3 says, "And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Registration is now open for the 24th Annual Bryan Adrian Summer Basketball Camp. Boys and girls ages 5-19 are eligible. The Summer Camp is held at North Carolina Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, N.C. The date is July 7 - 11. Included on The Camp Staff are: Kris Lang (UNC), Jason Capel (UNC), Anthony Grundy (NC State) and Darius Songaila (Wake Forest).

For a free Brochure call (704) 568-0048, anytime.

Prep All Stars is now talking applications for invitations for its 2002 summer basketball camps. Registration is open for advanced players ages (11-19). For more information or a brochure. call (704) 232-6034.

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A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

As we prepare, during this the month of March, to end our study on the structure and characteristics of the Book of Psalms let met point out some things to help us in our study. This is the final section which is known as the "Deuteronomy" section of the book. This book, as one of the Poetic Books of the Bible, reaches its zenith in the beloved 139th Psalm. In it we see the introduction of a new description of poetry. We see the use of strophes rather than the familiar form of stanzas. A strophe is defined as any separate section of a poem. It differs from a stanza in that it does not follow a regular repeated pattern of lines and rhymes. For instance take a moment to look at the song, "Lift every voice and sing." Count the lines and note the rhymes in each stanza. Not so when you are reading strophes. There is no set number of lines in each strophe.

Continuing, Psalm 139 is a Theological psalm in that it reveals something about the attributes of God. The subjects of David's meditation in this beautiful psalm are three attributes that helps us better understand the Nature of God. Each of these attributes is described in its separate strophe.

The first strophe reveals God's Omniscience. This describes His all-knowing Nature. Look at how David opens this psalm and introduces this strophe. "O Lord, thou hast search me and known me, Verse one." This speaks to God's intimate knowledge of each of us. David admits that God knows us in many ways. He knows our actions, our thoughts, our movements and even our words before they are formulated are already known by God. In Isaiah 55:8 He, God, tells us that these things are much too high for mere human to understand. More the reason we should worship Him daily.

The second strophe reveals God's Omnipresence. This speaks to God's ability to be everywhere at the same time and always in the present tense. God is present in the past, present, and the future at the same time. He is alpha and omega, the first and the last and everything in between. David in this psalm, verse seven, helps us to look at the omnipresence of God. No matter where you go, you cannot get away from God. He is present in the heavens and in hell. Even if we could fly at the speed of light, on the wings of dawn, we could not escape from Him. Even as David contrasted darkness and light, he, David, readily admits that we cannot escape from God because they are the same to Him because of His Omniscience and Omnipresence.

The third and final strophe, beginning with verses 13 and 14, introduces us to God's Omnipotence. That is God's powerful Nature. God knows, has known, all about us from the time we were in our mother's womb. Since He can and did cre-



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President
Congress of Christian Education

ate us, He certainly knows us intimately and is with us even though we are unaware of His presence. His strong arm is there to protect and defend us. It is this knowledge which caused David to break into praise over the thought of how God made us. Even in our formative, embryonic state God knew us well enough to pre-record all the days of our lives. This is before we are born. After having rejoiced David concludes with a prayer in verses 23 and 24. We as children of God should pray this prayer frequently as we open our hearts to God.

A Christian Education Moment for Our YOUTH and Young-at-Heart — Quiz

Throughout our area many are praying for rain to raise the water level.

For the month of March let us look at rain and water in the TEV Bible.

1. The Lord addressed the issue of water early in creation. What was God forming on the second day of creation? Genesis 1:6-8
2. What was God forming on the third day of creation using water? Genesis 1:9-10
3. How did God water the Garden of Eden before He sent rain? Genesis 2:4-6
4. When did God send the first rain fall and why? Genesis 7:11-12
5. When did Moses tell the Israelites that God would send rain? Deuteronomy 11:14-15
6. How did Samuel demonstrate to the children of Israel that their asking for an earthy king was wrong? I Samuel 12:16-18
7. What was Solomon's prayer to God concerning Israel? I Kings 8:35-36
8. Why did David say that the Lord sent showers of rain? Psalm 65:10
9. Who was David praying for in this Scripture? Psalm 72:6
10. How did the Lord warn Israel that they were disobedient? Amos 4:6-9

Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Portia Brandon, M.Div., Christian Education Coordinator

Harvard Team Wins Wake Forest University's Competition

By Kristi E. Swartz
Journal Reporter

Bad weather and a delayed plane flight didn't stop a team of five Harvard University graduate-level business students from winning Wake Forest University's annual marketing-case competition last week.

The group of first-year MBA students received \$5,000 for what judges said was the best marketing plan for pharmaceutical companies trying to sell HIV-and-AIDS-related drugs internationally. GlaxoSmith-Kline, a pharmaceutical-industry leader in developing drugs to test AIDS, was a corporate sponsor of the competition and helped draw up the marketing case for the students.

Glaxo said recently that it plans to ask for approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on its seventh drug for AIDS, which has infected more than 40 million people nationwide. The company, which has a large presence in Research Triangle Park, said in this case study that it wants to better market its drugs in South Africa.

"Their problem is, are we doing enough?" Wesley Brandon, a member of the Harvard team, said yesterday, "How can you get to the people who need the drugs the most and who don't have the money?"

Teams of students from eight graduate business schools, including Wake Forest University's Babcock Graduate School of Management, had 36 hours to prepare a presentation for a panel of judges Saturday. They began working on the marketing plan after visiting RTP for a presentation by Glaxo on Thursday night.

Brandon said that he and his teammates missed Glaxo's presentation and several hours of work time when ice and snow delayed their flight from Boston. The students arrived about 3 a.m. and found the marketing case waiting for them at the hotel, he said.

"We are working under a bit of time compression," he said.

The team brainstormed on the issues that made up Glaxo's marketing problem and then focused on the ones that they felt were the most critical, Brandon said. They concluded that Glaxo's challenge was twofold: maintaining a profit from drug sales so it could invest heavily in research and development and creating new drugs; and giving away its drugs to people who met certain criteria in poorer, foreign countries.

If drug cost was less of a problem, then those governments in poorer countries could focus more on AIDS-related educa-



Portia Brandon, M.Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

tion, building hospitals and dealing with other infrastructure issues, Brandon said.

The team used an annual financial statement from Glaxo, a breakdown of the countries most affected by AIDS and the number of people with the virus to determine how much of a financial hit Glaxo would take if it gave away its drugs.

"What we found was, at the end of the day, we still had positive net income," Brandon said. "So even though making it free would hurt us, we wouldn't go into further debt."

Jeff Norton and Edrienne Brandon, Wesley Brandon's wife, made the 25-minute presentation to the judges, who included David Ho, and AIDS researcher; Claudio Allen, the deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and Marian Chapman Moore, an assistant professor of marketing at Duke University.

"We talked to them about our plan instead of trying to wear them down with facts," Edrienne Brandon said, "It's a pretty risky strategy — we were very subtly saying they weren't doing enough — but we wanted to hold to what was the right thing to say."

All five team members were part of a 15-minute question-and-answer session that followed.

"It was incredibly tough," Norton said. "Our strength came from our experiences and what we developed in this process."

A team from the University of Texas at Austin won the second-place prize of \$3,000 and a team from the University of California at Berkeley won the third-place prize of \$2,000. A team from Wake Forest was last year's winner.

Happy
Easter

REMEMBER:

EASTER IS IN MARCH THIS YEAR!



School expectations are significant points of stress for young people. Students can learn to grade the level of stress they experience in school and home by finding good news in the Bible. Let them learn to express their opinions about school pressures and learn how to smile through school stress. Statistics alarm us about the low level of commitment young people have to their education. Schools seek to empower kids with knowledge necessary to compete in society, but the kids lack motivation. Proverbs 1:7 states the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but the fools despise wisdom and discipline. Proverb 3:5-6 states, trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Some young people think learning is dumb, but if you don't learn, you will be the one who's dumb. God wants us to learn all the knowledge we can. Here are a few comments through the eyes of young people:

God helps me at school. When I have a problem on my paper that I don't know, God helps me get the problem right.

Erica Pratt, 1st Grade

God helps me at school many, many times. He helps when I don't understand work. He helps by telling me how to act and how to learn. God, I thank you for everything you have done for me. He has always been there for me. He has always helped me to be me. He helps me on my behavior. He helps me on my homework. That's why I want to Thank God today right now.

Tiara Pratt, 4th Grade

God has given me so much. I don't know what I could do to make it up. In school, he gives me the ability to think for myself. I get good grades because the Lord helps me do it. God helps me choose right from wrong. Everyday God teaches me something new. He gives me a chance to learn. The Lord gave me the gift of basketball skills. Without him, I would probably not be able to walk. He gave me a great family to learn from. What would I do without God?



Delores Griffey

LaShaunda Pratt, 7th Grade

God has showed me the right way to go. He has also helped me do the right things during test.

Napoleon Holmes, 7th Grade

God has showed me the right road. He helped me all the way to the second grade.

Brandon Holmes, 2nd Grade

God has showed me that everybody is not your friend. He also help me during school.

Jason, 7th Grade

God has showed me to keep my head up no matter what people do and say. He has also helped me with my trials and tribulations during school, work, play and life.

Tanya Morris, 10th Grade

God helps me when I do great and God will be there to help me through the problems.

Miaya Brown, 1st Grade

Knowing God is there with me in school is really neat.

A.J. Hill, 4th Grade

School is really good, God helps us do a lot of projects.

Joshua Hill, 2nd Grade

God helps me do my work at school. He really loves me.

Shelesa Goodman, 2nd Grade

Keep up with homework and study hard for tests. Don't let teachers get to you. Go with the flow. Be mellow. Talk with parents or guardians about school and what you think is fair. Ask questions in class when you don't understand something.

Wise men store up knowledge, but the mouth of a fool invites ruin (Proverbs 10:14).

All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty (Proverbs 14:23).

The discerning heart seeks knowledge, but the mouth of a fool feeds on folly. (Proverbs 15:14).

Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (II Timothy 2:15).

From the Desk of the 4th Vice President

By Rev. Nilous M. Avery II, M.Div.

Grace to you and peace from God who is "above all, through all, and in you all" (Ephesians 4:6). I am reminded of a popular saying that has resulted in a profitable commerce; WWJD; What Would Jesus Do? This principle has also been interpreted to mean "Walk Where Jesus Did." The Gospel according to St. Matthew records that Jesus went about teaching, preaching, and healing (4:23). Jesus' ministry emphasized the principle of having a passion for God and compassion for people:

- Jesus embraced and accepted people,
- Jesus restored the broken,
- Jesus served others.

Jesus served by putting the needs of others above his own needs. He went about doing God's business, Jesus gave of Himself to meet the needs of others. He declared: "Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant...for the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:43-45).

In the summer of 1992, a girl and her daddy were enjoying an afternoon in a boat on Lake Michigan in Chicago, Illinois. After a while, water began pouring in through a hole in the bottom of the boat. The father had no choice but to swim to shore for help. This was the only option at the time. Because of a bad heart, he could not swim to shore and carry his daughter at the same time (he could swim, she couldn't).

The father instructed his daughter to float on her back like he had taught her to until he could return with help. He promised her that he would come back for her. By the time the father was able to get help, over an hour had passed. The rescue boat searched until the end of the day with no sign of the little girl. Finally, after deciding to make one more sweep (which turned out to be four miles into Lake Michigan), the rescue boat spotted the little girl.

They roared toward her, fearing the worst. To their amazement, upon approaching her, they found her floating on the water and singing, "Be not dismayed, what're betide, God will take care of you!" When she was safely in the rescue boat, she was asked how could she have lasted this long. She replied: "My daddy said he was com-



Rev. Nilous M. Avery II

ing back for me...my daddy never breaks his promises!"

Beloved, the children at the Central Children's Home in Oxford, N.C. have been floating on their backs, believing that the General Baptists around the state will come back for them because they believe that General Baptists never break their promises. Can God depend upon us to EM-BRACE AND ACCEPT PEOPLE...RESTORE THE BROKEN...and SERVE OTHERS? Are we willing to ask ourselves What Would Jesus Do? and take advantage of the privilege to Walk Where Jesus Did?

The children are floating on their backs and waiting for us to act. Send those prayers up, and those gifts (financial and physical) in today. Also, invite Mr. Michael Alston and his staff to come to your area and share with you about this great opportunity for ministry. I will be glad to come and speak to your church, association, or group for the sake of the children. I am at your service:

Rev. Nilous M. Avery II
c/o P.O. Box 2767
Salisbury, N.C. 28145-2767
(704) 637-0954; (704) 633-6227
fax (704) 637-1137, or
E-mail: averyrevkin@aol.com

I look forward to hearing from you and sharing with you in this walk of faith. Peace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen." (Galatians 6:18, NIV)

State Ushers News

Big Piney Grove Baptist Church, Clinton, N.C. Ushers accompanied their pastor, Rev. James Mitchell and choir, Nov. 10, 2001 to the J.J. Johnson Assembly Building, dressed in their white uniforms, performed beautifully!

Temple Memorial Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C. pastor Dr. H.C. Miller, Ushers was on duty at the Sheraton Hotel Ballroom, at the late night service, after Dr. King Banquet, Jan. 11 at the Civic Center.

Ushers have you ever been on duty at 12 midnight? They were smiling and nice to everyone present. One lady Usher, the pres. came out side, after the service closed, with an armful of offertory baskets. When asked why — she was returning them to Temple Memorial. Dedicated Ushers! Dr. Miller, you should be proud of them and commend them for a job well done!

Mt. Pleasant M. Baptist Church, Clinton, N.C. held their annual Ushers Anniversary, Feb.

3, 2002 at 3 p.m. Rev. H.R. Codell, Lisbon Street Baptist Church, Clinton, N.C. pastor, choir and Ushers were their guests. Bro. Earlie Melvin is pres. of Ushers, Dr. Varnie Fullwood, pastor.

Robinson Chapel M. Baptist Church, Roseboro, N.C. will have their annual Ushers Anniversary, Feb. 17, 2002 at 3:30 p.m. Sis. Ruby Boone invites all Western Union Ushers to attend.

Rev. Sis. Oletha Troublefield, Mt. Olive, N.C. and Pres. of Kenansville Eastern Baptist Association of Ushers and Bro. Charles Faison, Vice President are doing a survey of their Ushers Association to see how many Ushers they have with 30 plus years of service.

You will hear more about this later when the survey is completed. Keep up the good work, Pres. Troublefield and Vice Pres. Faison!

May God continue to bless and keep you. Send Usher News: P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, N.C. 28366.

Go to: www.gbasc.org

A Black College is not so much a harvest ground as it is a road to Higher Ground. Judith Boswell Griffin

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A Charge To Church Trustees

By Rev. Dennis Leach B.S.M.Div.

I recently was asked by brother Rick Roberson chairman of the trustee board to give a charge to the board of trustees at the St. Matthew Missionary Baptist Church, in Raleigh where the Rev. Ronald Avery is the pastor. The following is a summary of the instructions, and charge given that day.

I have been asked to give the charge to those of you who will serve this church through this trustee ministry. One of the most difficult boards in the church to define, and understand is the board of trustees. Those individuals who must deal with the financial aspects of managing a church have a duty both to their congregations and to the Lord. The responsibility is one of a fiduciary — that is, one who is charged with confidence or trust as it relates to the management of someone else's property, or money. In fact, the biblical exhortation is clear: "We have regard for what is honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men" (2 Cor. 8:21). It is extremely important, therefore, that those individuals who are charged with the oversight of the financial resources and property of a church be of the highest caliber.

Who should serve then? Those men and women who have demonstrated their faithfulness to previously assigned tasks and who evidence biblical character qualities. The financial officers, or trustees of the church don't necessarily need to be accountants or CPAs. The most practical and effective minimum standard for a financial steward (that is a trustee, money counter, bookkeeper, financial secretary, or treasurer) should be that of being a deacon or wife of a deacon. The qualifications are outlined clearly for us in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Titus 1:6-9. Ideally, you would want your highest offices filled by people qualified as — to use New Testament terminology — elders, deacons, or wives of deacons. Starting with the requirements of an elder, or overseer, and moving on through those of a deacon you find a common thread, a continuous theme — trustworthiness:

- Above reproach — a good reputation in and outside the church
- Temperate — does things in moderation
- Prudent — is shrewd (in good sense), cautious, and thrifty
- Respectable — one who is deserving of high regard
- Free from the love of money — the pursuit of money does not become a preoccupation
- Manages his, or her own household well — refers to both people and resources

Titus 1:7 sums it up: "The overseer must be above reproach as God's steward." A person can't help but use the word integrity in describing this faithful servant. Integrity has been defined as "doing what you're supposed to do when no one is looking." The risk factor in selecting those individuals who are charged with the handling of church funds can be greatly reduced when they are chosen on the basis of their character traits first instead of by their secular abilities.

Trustees are really a standing committee, appointed for a specific purpose. And since the Church is the community, the trustees should hold themselves bound by every consideration of morality, and honor, to carry out the wishes of the church and to act under their instructions, whatever technical rights civil laws and the decisions of courts may give them in certain emergencies.

The Mark of a Trustee Board Member

1. Beginning with what the church is all about, we would affirm that a church trustee should be a person of the Word. This does not mean that such a person has to be a Bible scholar, or even a walking Bible dictionary. But, surely he or she should have a general knowledge of the Word of God as it relates to the theology of the church and the reason why the church was established. Sometimes, a church may insist upon such a high standard for a member of the board of trustees, that they may frighten away people with tremendous potential for being leaders in the church. The Master gave us a clue to this.

a. He chose who were not founded and grounded in his Word, but who were open to learning the Word and its implications for them. That's why it is a good idea to have training sessions for church officers.

b. In a retreat time or series of training events a board of trustees, like all the other boards and committees, can then spend time beginning with questions, such as: Why did Jesus establish this church anyway? What are our roles as servants of his church and world? How do we relate the properties and possessions of the church to the whole question of Christian stewardship in the community and world?

2. The second mark of a church trustee is *spiritual sensitivity*. By this I mean that whoever serves on a board of trustees should be a person who loves the church and is sensitive to its needs.

a. We are not to see the church as a static institution build upon a history of superficial traditions. Instead, we should see the church as the gathered people who have common faith in Jesus Christ as the Lord of all life. This means then that everything, which happens in that board meeting, is taking place within the framework of ministry and mission.

b. Not all church officers understand what is meant by this — especially, the board of trustees. All too many trustees feel their responsibility is to perpetuate a building, maintain edifices, monitor fiscal matters, and have a good balance in the bankbook. For the spiritually sensitive trustee, there is always in mind the question, what is the will of God in these matters? Furthermore, the spiritually sensitive will ask: How does the maintenance or improvement of this building better enhance the proclaiming of the gospel? When do you make decisions because it's God's will for the church even though the decisions are not based on sound business principles?

3. The third mark of a member of the board of trustees should be that of *teamwork capabilities*.

a. This concept of teamwork means two things; the trustee functions as a member of the larger team, the CHURCH, and thus is always responsible to them; and secondly the trustee is one of a number of trustees and should know how to work with a small group of people without having to dominate them. A team person learns to listen and to be sensitive to other opinions. A team person volunteers to pick up his or her share of the labors and makes the load lighter for all.

b. A strong board of trustees may have every type and kind of individuals, but it's only as each accepts the unique task of which he or she is capable that the board can function effectively.

4. The fourth mark of a member of the board of trustees is *openness*. This group is given great responsibility in overseeing the physical buildings and possibly the financial affairs of the whole church. This means, then, they must be open to change, flexible in opinions, and willing to learn.

a. Many churches have had great problems because members of their board of trustees were only interested in the building and its care. This meant if a board of Christian Education wanted a decision made to alter a room, increase a budget item, or to open the building for community use, it was blocked by a group of hard-dealing business types who couldn't see that board's purpose, and then prevented the changes from being made.

Openness will be more of a characteristic of trustee board members if more of them have served on mission committees, social concern committees, Christian Education boards, or music committees where they have had a previous orientation to concerns which result in openness. Now to members of St. Matthew who are willing to accept this charge to serve as a trustee please stand.

Are you willing to be led by the Holy Spirit of God as you engage in this work, and assume its responsibilities?

I will, by God's grace.

Will you endeavor, as much as lieth in you,

to perform faithfully the duties of your office in this church?

I will, by God's grace.

Will you be diligent in the account of your stewardship, constant in prayer, in the reading of the Bible, and such studies as help in the knowledge of God, his Kingdom and your tasks?

I will, by God's grace.

Will you strive to live so that the power of God may be manifested in your life, enabling you to convey the sense of God's presence in all your work?

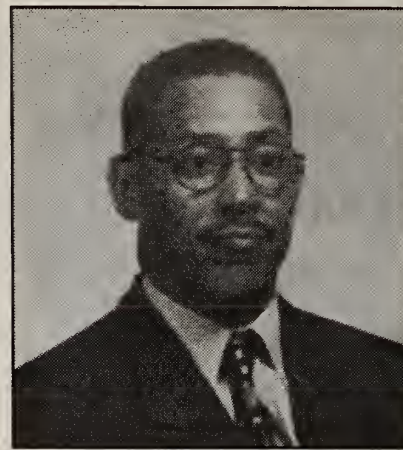
I will, by God's grace.

Will you be loyal to this church, and accept the authority of those to whom the church has committed the direction of your work?

I will, by God's grace.

Let us bow for a moment of silent prayer.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies; graciously behold these thy servants who are being commissioned as trustees in this your church.



Rev. Dennis Leach B.S.M.Div.

Endow them with thy spirit; enrich them with thy heavenly grace; and strengthen them for the tasks that lie ahead, that in all thy work, begun, continued, and ended in thee, they may glorify thy holy name, and advance thy Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From the Minister's Council

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch, President

Greetings in the matchless name of our risen Christ. The prayers of the Ministers' Council are with each of you as you labor in the vineyard of the Master. The GBSC Ministers' Council has taken our charge from President fuller to serve the Ministers of this great convention. Our efforts have been put forth to provide resources to the clergy of this convention with the aim of providing assistance and support to servants of God.

The 3rd Annual Leadership Summit was held in Charlotte at the Ebenezer Baptist Church during the month of February and we hope to provide highlights in the next issue of The Informer.

In this issue we are responding to several request from within the convention to provide resources for an effective ministry. One area that must be addressed is the ministers' personal library. The following books are recommended essential additions for an effective library, however this is not an exhaustive listing.

Aubrey Malphurs, "Pouring New Wine into Old Wineskins: How to Change A Church without Destroying It" (Baker Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 1993) ISBN 0-8010-6301-9

Rick Warren, "The Purpose Driven Church: Growth Without Compromising Your Message" (Zondervan Pub. House, Grand Rapids, MI, 1995) ISBN 0-310-20106-3

Lyle E. Schaller, "44 Ways to Expand the Teaching Ministry of Your Church" (Abington Press, Nashville, TN, 1992) ISBN 0-687-13289-4

John C. Maxwell, "Developing The Leaders Around You" (Thomas Nelson, Nashville, TN, 1995) ISBN 0-8407-6747-1

Broadman & Holman Professional Development Books (Nashville, TN) "The 12 Essential Skills for Great Preaching"

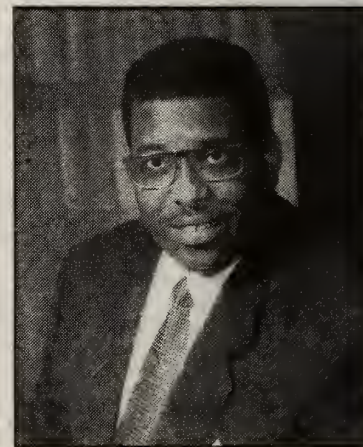
"The Empowered Communicator: 7 Keys to Unlock an Audience"

"The Empowered Leader: 10 Keys to Servant Leadership"

Thom & Joani Schults, "Why Nobody Learns Much of Anything At Church: & How to Fix It" (Regal books, Ventura, CA) ISBN 0-8307-1776-5

George Barna, "Evangelism That Works: How to Reach Changing Generations with the Unchanging Gospel" (Group Press, Loveland, Colorado, 1993) ISBN 1-55945-909-7

Gary L. McIntosh, "Make Room For the Boom...or Bust" (Baker Book House, Grand



Dr. Leonzo Lynch

Rapids, MI, 1977) ISBN 0-8007-5614-2

Kay Author, "How To Study Your Bible: The Lasting Rewards of the Inductive Approach" (Harvest House, Eugene, Oregon, 1994) ISBN 1-56507-173-5

H.B. London Jr. & Neil B. Wiseman, "The Heart of a Great Pastor" (Ventura, CA Regal Press 1994) ISBN-0-8307-1674-2

Pastors At Risk: Help For The Pastors, Hope For The Church (Wheaton, IL Victor Books 1993) ISBN-1-56476-111-8

Samuel D. Proctor, "The Certain Sound Of The Trumpet: Crafting A Sermon Of Authority" (Valley Forge, PA Judson Press) ISBN-0-8170-1202-8

J. Wendell Mapson Jr., "Strange Fire" (St. Louis, MO Hodale Press, Inc. 1996) ISBN-1-884594-21-2

J. Wendell Mapson Jr., "The Ministry of Music In The Black Church" (Valley Forge, PA Judson Press 1984) ISBN-0-8170-1057-2

H. Beecher Hicks Jr., "Correspondence With A Cripple From Tarsus" (Grand Rapids, MI Zondervan Publishing 1990) ISBN-0-310-52201-3

Cornel West, "Race Matters" (Boston, MA Beacon Press 1993) ISBN-0-8070-0918-0

G. Lloyd Rediger, "Clergy Killers: Guidance for Pastors and Congregations Under Attack" (Louisville, KY, Westminster John Knox Press 1997) ISBN-0-664-25753-4

Kenneth C. Haugh, "Antagonists in the Church: How to Identify and Deal with Destructive Conflict" (Minneapolis, MN Augsburg Publishing House 1988) ISBN-0-8066-2310-1

It is our hope and prayer that this brief listing will serve as a resource as you build your ministry. God Bless you all.

FAITH AND FITNESS • By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

Does God Give Instructions To Improve Our Health?

Taking steps to improve our health is an ongoing issue, and sometimes a struggle for the African American Christian. I am very thankful that God is understanding and meets us exactly where we are. As we live this Christian life, God for the most part lets us decide what issues are important and how we want to approach them. God also lets us decide if we want to approach those issues at all. If we decide that issues need to be addressed, we may expend time, energy and prayer as we try to get to where God wants us to be. We can all look back over our lives and realize what our issues have been and seen how God has brought us through. Those issues may have involved finances, relationships, or raising children.

Many of us have struggled at one point with finances, but through God's Word, we now understand what he expects and are for the most part, financially stable. Relationships with family members or spouses can sometimes offer challenges, but we grew based on God's Word and have learned the proper way to treat our loved ones. I must admit that the issue of raising children can offer ongoing struggles, especially since I am currently in the midst of this aspect of life. As times goes by, I get a clearer understanding that this is one of those issues that may never cease, even once the children have reached the age of what society considers, grown. Even with this, God is faithful and provides strength, guidance, and wisdom regarding steps to take.

What about our health, and specifically our eating habits? This is definitely an issue that arises for all of us at some point in our lives. For some, the seriousness of addressing our nutrition may not occur until a major health crisis occurs. Some of us may, based on what we hear or read decide that a serious assessment of what we eat, needs to occur. We are all at different levels regarding the importance of trying to improve or maintain our health, based on what we eat. We can understand this, because of God and who he is. He gives us free reign and free will. He may by his spirit try to open our eyes, but we decide if and when they will be opened. Quite possibly, they may open a little at a time.

I can truly say that this is what is happening with me regarding proper nutrition and what I should or should not eat. Let me preface my statements by saying that the Bible, God's Holy Word should be our ultimate source of information regarding any subject. We should allow the Bible to have the last word, no matter what the topic is. We could easily get into a debate about what the Bible has to say regarding nutrition and whether it applies to us today, but the scripture itself sheds light on this. We read in II Timothy that:

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." II Timothy 3:16

I have just recently realized that God gave a lot of *instruction in righteousness* regarding what to eat and not to eat in his Word. I have begun reading a book entitled "What the Bible Says About Healthy Living" by Dr. Rex Russell. The book seems to be thorough and is full of interesting information that is backed by scripture.

During 1998, I had an opportunity to give assistance at a Health Fair for a church in Decatur, Georgia. A young lady gave a talk on nutrition, which also included a cooking demonstration. Based on her enthusiasm, it is fair to say that she definitely believed and lived what she spoke. She had been diagnosed with cancer and attributed her healing to her complete change in what she ate. She had become a vegan vegetarian and did not eat any meat or meat products. This equated to no milk, eggs or cheese. She also talked about items that she had decided to eliminate from her diet based on what the Bible had to say. At the time I considered myself a very health conscious person, but I found myself having a difficult time *receiving* what she had to say. I felt that the way the young lady came across was just a little too strong. She came across as the expert and seemed to say that if everyone was not where she was that we needed to strive to get there. I went away from the session questioning what I should do with what she had shared. My bottom-line analysis at that time was to do nothing because I felt that she was a little fanatical and that her suggestions may be ok for

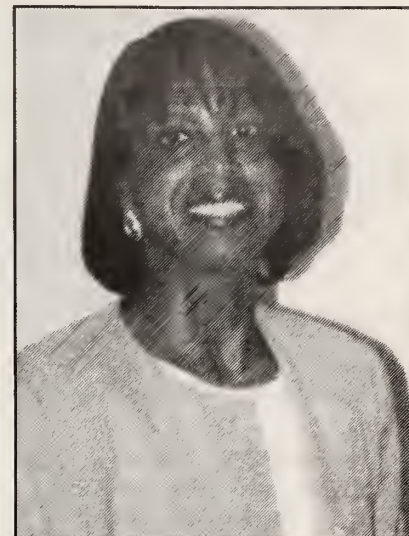
some, but was not for everyone.

Today, about four years later, I believe that I am more ready to receive what was shared. I may have been more ready then, had I not felt that she was trying to coerce me into the reception by using guilt. Even though I still disagree with her approach and delivery, today, I realize now that she had spoken a lot of truth.

I believe that what Dr. Russell shares will back up a lot of what she shared, as I read more of his book. I guess I am more open to receive today, and so far I like Dr. Russell's approach.

The bottom line to what this young lady and Dr. Russell have to say is that God did provide us nutritional instructions that would help us to stay healthy. We also need to accept that God knew what our lives would be like in the 21st century when he inspired the author's of the Old and New Testament to write the Bible. God is wise enough to have known what to write for us over 3000 years ago. The information is there, if we decide that we are ready to receive it. We must keep in mind that once we receive knowledge, that God expects us to do something with that knowledge. James 4:17 says:

"Therefore to him that knoweth to do



Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

More is expected, once we know. I believe that God is dealing with me, as I learn more about what he wants me to eat, based on His Word. Am I where I need to be regarding my nutrition? **NO!** Will I ever eat exactly as I should? **Probably not.** I search for answers from His Word because those answers can help me to be healthier for him. Pray with and for me as I receive more knowledge. Pray that I will do something with it, in my life. Also, pray for yourself, because if you have not figured it out, I will be sharing the knowledge that I receive with you. My call is to encourage others by sharing what God gives me, to work toward improved health. It is all to the glory of God. **Be Blessed!**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION For GBSC, Inc. Certificate Holders

Voluntary Term Life Group Trust Insurance

Greetings and Peace! This information is in response to the letters that all General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. certificate holders recently received from Great Western Life & Annuity Insurance Company, Greenwood Village, CO, and Great American Financial Resources, John H. Wilcher, General Agent, Johnsonville, SC.

First, the GBSC, Inc. in no way had any knowledge of Great Western's actions to terminate the Voluntary Term Life Group Trust. THE GBSC, Inc. did not receive any correspondence from Great Western, or Great American concerning their immediate actions on this important and most urgent insurance issue.

Second, the GBSC, Inc. has sought assistance from the North Carolina Department of Insurance, insurance professionals and, benefit consultant on behalf of the GBSC certificate holders so you can receive the best options available concerning their term coverage.

The Rev. Charlie M. Williams, of Alford, Williams & Associates will serve as agent of record and benefits consultant to handle any concerns, benefit options, claims, conversions or insurance customer service questions. No other agency has the endorsement of the convention.

Please contact Rev. Williams immediately concerning your insurance coverage. Time is of the essence to maintain our insurance coverage. If you chose not to respond, please sign the enclosed waiver that has been mailed to you: Mail the form to Alford, Williams & Associates. Rev. Williams can be reached at the following numbers, 800-639-4272, 919-821-7466 or 888-778-4029 (pager).

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC. CERTIFICATE INSURANCE WAIVER FORM (Please check and return to GBSC)

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Signature _____

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Rev. Dr. Howard D. Davis Sr.

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Second Printing of

"Glimpses of General Baptist Pastor"

Rev. Dr. Howard D. Davis Sr.

A candid look at joys and sorrows of Pastoral Ministry. Story of a few mainline GBSC pastors who founded new churches successfully.

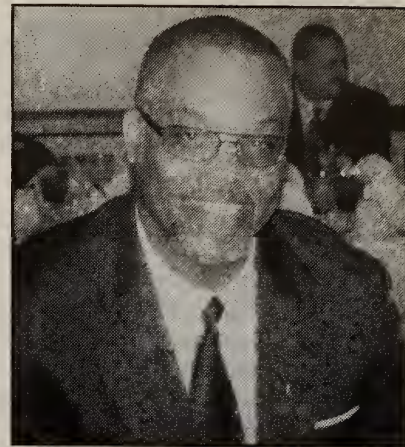
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From the Office of Institutional and Specialized Ministries

Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr., Chairman
Rev. Jeff Locus, Co-Chairman



Rev. Michael R. Smith Sr.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN NOBODY COMES? Psalm 107:6-10

Submitted by Rev. Michael J. Pope
OISM Coordinator of At-Risk Youth Ministries

One area where the African American church should bow their head in shame is the lack of support of our brothers and sisters in prison. Many church congregations fail to acknowledge their condition of incarceration. This self-imposed denial has allowed the politics of domination to invade the sacred of the Kingdom of God. Many churches fail to act because of the us and them image that operates on the subliminal plain. We are suppose to nurture and

encourage each other, not criticize and pass judgment. Each of us was born with an authentic self given by God which is made for communion with Him and others.

After confessing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, we are to trust Him to clean our temples by removing the shame of our past so that we can be free to serve and glorify Him. Instead, we try to hide our true selves. We use race, culture, class, money, education and titles as excuses for not helping or fellowshiping with someone outside of our group. I wonder what would have happened if Jesus had acted that way

toward us by being selective in His blessings, grace and mercy? What would have happened to Daniel if God decided the lion needed a meal? What about Shadrach, Meshak and Abednego in the furnace if God had decided they were not any one special? Let's even look to that day on Calvary. What if Jesus had suddenly decided that we were not worth the suffering and came down from the cross? Where would we be today? We have to stop persecuting one another over matters like church size and educational status. We must stop thinking from self and Let God.

When I reflect on the life of Jesus in the Gospels, He always seemed to show up at the right time in the right place. He showed up in places where people were being alienated or ostracized. Jesus truly appeared to be drawn to the poor and disadvantaged. It seems we, the professed men and women

of God should be also. The true mission of any true church should lead them to be wherever people are suffering. The church should know the shed blood of Christ is able to redeem and bring reconciliation among mankind. The Church should and we must be on the battlefield. The Spirit of the Lord rests with those who are concerned about bringing unity and vitality to our communities. Therefore, if the Church is to fulfill our mission of being salt and light in the world, we must go to people who are in places no one really wants to go. Jesus is always there for us everyday, hour, minute and second. So the Church must stop turning our heads saying the prisoner, at-risk youth, or victim of crime are not my people or that is not my problem. How would you feel if it was you and nobody ever showed up?

From the Moderator of Moderator's Committee

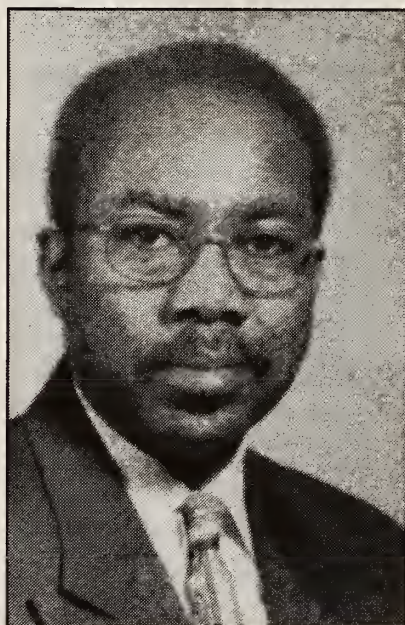
It's All About Tact

Grace and peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

Prior to writing this article, I looked in the dictionary to ascertain the definition of "tact. Webster says that it is a keen sense of what to do or say in order to maintain good relations with others or avoid offense.

Last month I had the pleasure of sitting in on a minister's session at the Congress of Christian Education one-day session. It was a very good session and everyone seemed to enjoy the session very much. Dr. George Cook taught the session and he talked about making changes in our churches. He used as his reference Dr. George McCaleb's book entitled, "Faithful Over A Few Things." I must admit that I was kind of tired as a result of the drive from Durham, N.C. to Winston Salem, N.C. and was having a hard time keeping my eyes opened. Well, many of you know that I have been raising church conflict issues in this column so when Dr. Cook began talking about making changes in our churches, my eyes and ears opened because I knew that I had just heard something else to write about. Making changes in our churches — now that is a real conflict issue. You talk about combining the choirs, starting an eight o'clock services, dealing with the tenure of officers, changing the order of services, creating a new ministry, rearranging the flowers on the pulpit, and etc. Well, I have already experienced churches splitting over changes far minor than the ones I have mentioned.

Now let me hasten to say that I agree with Dr. Cook and I believe changes are good for our churches. New ideas, new faces and new things can be very beneficial as we meet the challenge of ministering in this present age. I want to mention just a few things that Dr. Cook stated that I believe will help Pastors and churches to minimize conflict as changes are considered. First, never change for the sake of change. There should be a purpose behind



Rev. James W. Smith, J.D.

the change. Second, it's not what you do, it is how you do it. Most of us can attest to the fact that any word or phrases used can be fighting words depending upon how they are used. Third, learn how to maintain relationships. Again, being able to communicate and reason with each other is very important. And so, as we look to fresh ideas and new ways of ministering to our people and at the same time consider church conflict, let us remember that IT'S ALL ABOUT TACT.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

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I Must Cry Loud, And Spare Not!!

A woman sits quietly in a corner, staring into the distance, overwhelmed by shock and paralyzed with fear. Why? Her husband, in the prime of his life, has slipped into eternity. I can't begin to count the number of times I have experienced this scenario. Just this past week, as I sat in the hospital emergency room consoling one of my parishioners who lost her husband (age 49), I saw two other African American males (ages 41 and 54) die within a two-hour span. As I ventured a little further to the Intensive Care Unit, I noticed that the majority of patients on life support were African American. Yet, the family members who filled the waiting room could not sit still because they needed to leave the room to smoke or get a drink. I soon realized that this problem was much larger than I have originally imagined. This issue presented an even greater challenge than I had envisioned.

I found myself reflecting upon a quote mentioned in my book, **Brother to Brother — You Don't Have To Die With Prostate Cancer**. According to Don Speaks, Conference Coordinator for "Brothers Can We Talk About It?" (a conference held in At-

lanta, Georgia on May 2, 1998), "...if black people, especially black men do not start taking control of our personal health status we will be on the verge of extinction by the 21st century!" It is obvious to me that if we keep doing what we've always done, we will keep getting what we've always gotten. Sadly enough, that equates to early deaths for many of our people. This issue of health — taking care of the temple — is one we must address.

Having pastored for the past 32 years, I am disturbed by the reception of fellow ministers. I have found that many of them don't want to take the time to deal with health issues. My calling as a minister of the gospel dictates that I be concerned about the whole man — mind, body and soul. III John 2 states, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as th' 11'y soul prospereth." As ministers, we usually cover the issue of the soul, but what about the mind and body? Let's talk about the mind and body. Education is premier! Proverbs 4:7-10 declares, "Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall pro-

mote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee. Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many." We must establish health education programs within our churches, and we should take advantage of the ones already established, such as the General Baptist Health Program. Most county health departments will be glad to do basic screenings for high blood pressure, diabetes, cholesterol, etc. As I move around the country talking with men about prostate cancer, I challenge them to include a routine of exercise, proper diet, and regular doctor visits.

Perhaps, I feel a special urgency to "cry loud" about this issue of health because I am a prostate cancer survivor. Through the grace of God, early detection and modifications in diet and life style, I am here today. I am even further propelled on this mission because of my calling as a minister. I have sought ways to involve myself in this issue that threatens the very existence of our people.

Through the Health Committee of the



Dr. Thomas L. Walker

General Baptist State Convention, on which I serve, we are able to touch many lives concerning health. This is yet another avenue we can use to become informed. Hosea 4:6 states, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." If we are to live long, healthy lives, we must learn how to take care of our temples. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? (I Corinthians 3:16).

Dr. Thomas L. Walker, Senior Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, N.C. Author of Brother to Brother — You Don't Have to Die With Prostate Cancer. Member, General Baptist State Convention Health Committee

An Open Letter — Especially To Black Men

By Dr. John Hatch, Senior Development Officer • Office of Health and Human Services

Dear Christian Brothers:

Did you know that sixty-five percent of deaths in black men before age 65 are due to causes we can do something about? The lower life expectancy reported for black men is overwhelmingly due to premature deaths of young men. Most humans wish to live a full life span with a high quality of life. These aspirations are found in people regardless of class, ethnicity, faith and nationality. These common strivings include meeting basic physical needs for food, clothing and shelter; the desire to belong to a community; and to be well regarded by friends and family and to be loved. How closely achievements match these goals has powerful influence on how one feels about oneself and the actions individuals take in daily life.

It is common to think of health within the narrow context of physical sickness and the various roles medical specialists play in the treatment of illness and extension of life. The biomedical approach to health maintenance and treatment is important. As much as 35% of premature disability and death is thought to be influenced by barriers to high quality medical care and genetic factors. The other 65% is related to other causes. The leading cause of death in young African American men (18-35) is the risk of being killed by other young African American men. Death from HIV/AIDS is the second killer of young black men. Half of the two million Americans in jail are black men. This is related to inequality and loss of vision. Life expectancy of black men remains the lowest of all racial/ethnic groups reported by the U.S. Census. These low numbers are not due to death of those black men who live to reach 60 and beyond. It is overwhelmingly due to death of young men.

My father and uncles lived to reach their 70's and 80's as have I and many other family members. Over the past twenty years my family has experienced the trauma of

seeing six members of the younger generation die before 30 years of age. Three young men were killed in drive-by shootings, one died of AIDS, one died in an auto accident, and a young woman of 23 years was murdered. The parents of these young people are decent, hard working folk who did the best they could to raise their children well. All grew up in relative comfort with the expectations that they would follow in the footsteps of older family members. These losses have taken a heavy psychological toll and challenged our faith. Within my extended friendship network the experience of my family does not deviate greatly from the experience of many other African American families. If we are to significantly reduce the gap in life expectancy between black males and white males, it is imperative that we understand the forces that initiate and enable a culture that is toxic to raising black males.

I need not remind readers of those words that the journey in America has often been difficult for black folk. There have always been systems that challenge our humanity and the desire to live free and pursue those activities that improve the chances for long life and happiness. Drugs are implicated in the subculture of violence and the spread of AIDS. International and regional drug dealers make lots of money. However, the use for drugs is in some measure related to political and economic forces that somehow cause so many young black men to feel that they cannot attain success by the pathway set by past generations. The belief that nothing beyond money matters is destructive. Liberty and justice has not been reality for many, yet we must not despair. There is reason beyond materialism and equality. Wealth and race provide advantage as both are strongly related to educational opportunity and to participation in the job market and business.

It is also well established that men who think well of themselves and are supported

in these perceptions by family and community are better able to withstand the more difficult pathways most black men must tread. We also know that men who hold good jobs are married, own their home, live longer and are less likely to become involved in destructive behavior. It is clearly in the interest of black men of all ages to reduce the intake of fat in the diet, not to smoke and to exercise three or more days every week for 30-40 minutes.

Many of us live stressed lives. We should from time to time stop and examine the things we do with our time and ask if these things bring joy and add to the quality of our lives and the lives of those we love. Many years ago, I was the lead person in development of a rural health service. Success would benefit many people. It would also advance my career. I often worked 12-14 hours, 6 days a week. The project was progressing well. After about 6 months at this pace, my older son who had just turned eight began to misbehave at home and in school, his grades were low. Our pediatrician recommended trying drugs to calm him down. I was troubled by this advice and decided to share these concerns with my physician, an older man I greatly respected. I had second thoughts when he began to ask about my relationship with my wife. Indeed she was not pleased that I was home so little and often tired. He asked about the activities I did with my children and whether I had always put so much time in at work. My first thoughts were, this man is messing in my business. How I live has nothing to do with this kid acting out stuff. To this day, I thank Dr. David Glen, a man of faith who invited me to pray with him and seek God's guidance in balancing life's priorities in ways that place the family's needs first. My son with the problem is today a well-respected cardiologist in his community and the father of four beautiful and talented children. I shutter to think what might have happened without the love that



Dr. John Hatch

enabled Dr. Glen to share his pearls of wisdom and faith with me. It was a wake up call! Thank God, I managed to get it together!

As we travel life pathways, those of us who survive gain insights into life that could help those who follow to avoid some of the pitfalls, hard knocks and near misses we have experienced. Men should come together as men to learn from each other and to do the best we can to see the light that is always there. God is. We need to be about arming our male children to face the years ahead in the knowledge that we care, that they are ours and we love them. This will require discipline, teaching the habits of hard work, seriousness and endurance with grace. Mentoring in ways to live life is needed.

There are lots of noises in the environment — television, internet and rap music compete for the hearts, minds and souls of young black men. People of faith and goodwill must find ways to support those things that nurture living and enable safe passage in youth and comfort in old age.

I will conclude this letter with words taken from a call to action by Dr. W.B. Lewis in 1988 entitled *Blackmen in Crisis*, "There is need to come together as Christians to seek ways to reduce the loss of so many of our young men to jail and death. This is a crisis that demands action. The survival of our families as families and the future of black communities is strongly related to the presence of men able to function well as fathers and husbands."

ELECTION NEWS

J.C. Harris Selects Campaign Coordinator

By Gregory K. Moss Sr.

Pastor, St. Paul Baptist Church

Over the years, our beloved General Baptist State Convention has been a flagship and model for Baptist work across this country and throughout the world. Our convention has enjoyed tremendous leadership since its inception. Men and women from across the great divide of North Carolina have given their best to the convention's causes and objectives. They unselfishly utilized their gifts and graces to lead the convention through prosperous periods as well as tough and turbulent times. Commendations are in order for the vision, leadership and sacrifice of each person who has left an etch in the sketch of the mosaic of General Baptist work.

For more than a century, General Baptist have risen to meet the challenges of its day. In its formative years, the convention championed education for its constituents. As the need evolved, the convention has been flexible enough to adjust its emphasis to address new and complex challenges. As evidenced with the onslaught of Hurricane Floyd which devastated much of Eastern North Carolina, thousands of General Baptist answered the call of its leadership and are continually responding to displaced brothers and sisters.

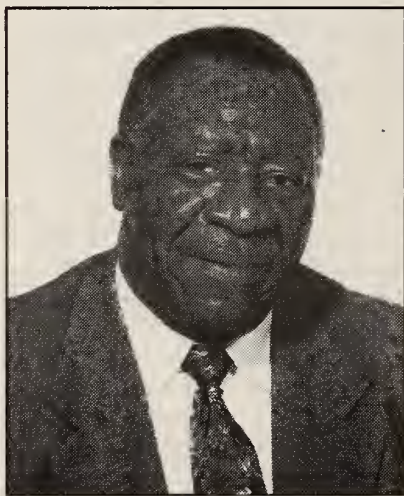
We are presently in an election year, wherein the convention must elect new leadership to guide us through the next four years. The past presidents of our convention have placed their mark upon our great work including that of the current sitting president, John D. Fuller. Under his energetic, visionary leadership, President Fuller has set in motion tremendous ministry

projects, setting the tone for General Baptist work for years to come. The next leader must be humble, suave and possess the temperament to continue what has been put in place. They must also possess the experience, energy, vision and wisdom to position General Baptist to meet its future challenges.

It is my sincere belief God has raised one among us for such a time as this. J.C. Harris is that person. He has served General Baptist interest in leadership capacity for more than thirty years. From director of the summer camp sponsored by the Woman's Convention to Vice-President-at-large of our esteemed convention, he has rolled up his sleeves and put his hand to the plow. Our Lord's word declares "He who put his hand to the plow and looks back, is not fit for the kingdom..." J.C. Harris set his hand to the plow, met tremendous opposition, suffered loss and walked through storms. Yet he has neither stopped, stalled nor taken his eye off the purpose of convention work. J.C. Harris has not looked back. This is why I have accepted the privilege and responsibility to coordinate his campaign for the office of President of the General Baptist State Convention.

Our campaign is inclusive. We extend an invitation to all who wish to further the cause and legacy we inherit, and who are interested in the exciting, new ventures, venues and vistas God has in store as we seek to retool General Baptist for work in the new millennium. If interested, please contact us at P.O. Box 301, Statesville, N.C. 28677 or phone us at 704-873-1732.

May God continue to bless and keep you.



Dr. Elbert Lee

OFFERS

Worthless credit card loss protection offers were particularly a problem last fall with uncertainty over potential Y2K problems, according to the FTC.

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If you discover an unauthorized charge on a credit card bill, don't pay it. Follow your credit card issuer's procedures for disputing charges you haven't authorized. According to the Federal Trade Commission, your liability for unauthorized charges is limited to \$50.

Never give out personal information — including credit card or bank account numbers — over the phone or on-line for any product

(Continued on next page)

Rev. Ricky Banks Seeking 4th Vice President of GBSC

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through knowledge of God and of our Lord, Jesus Christ. II Peter 1:2.

Greetings and salutations, first, to our Heavenly Father, and secondly, to the greatest Convention this side of Jordan — the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. My Brothers and Sisters in Christ, it is a high privilege and honor for me to approach you in this manner, and to ask for your listening ear.

It is exciting to watch the fruits of our labor, continuing growth and development of this great Convention. As we look back to where we have come from, and where we're going, we must admit that **Truly the Lord is in this place.**

Now, Brothers and Sisters, I'm asking you to accept the **Vision** and the **Challenge** to ban together and lead this Convention to even higher heights and deeper depths in Christ Jesus.

In so doing, I would like to solicit your help in this great **Challenge** by asking for your support in becoming the next **4th Vice President of this historical Convention.**

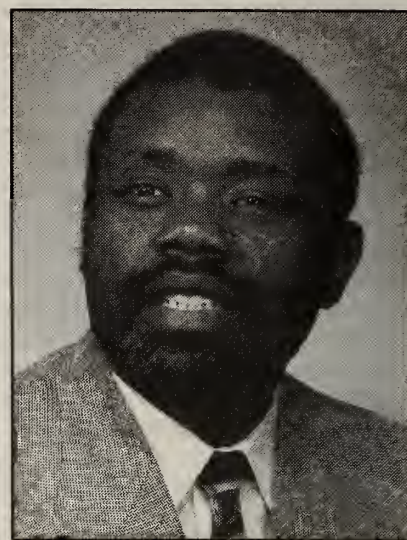
Some of you may ask what qualifies me for this vast task — I'm glad you asked.

God has tremendously blessed my ministry in these 21 years, in reaching forward to grasp new and innovative, progressive ministries and programs that have lifted our people from spiritual impotence and economic dependency to heights of spiritual and economic empowerment. **To God Be The Glory!**

In 1982 God called me to serve the good people of the **St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, N.C.** where His praises continue to go up. Some of the ministries that God has been seen fit to be implemented are:

- * 3 Star Child Care Program
- * After School Care Program
- * Alcoholics Anonymous Program
- * Food/Clothes Closet/Shelter Program
- * Development Skills Program
- * Summer Care Program
- * Aerobics Program
- * Scholarship Program
- * Christian Bookstore

I presently serve as **Moderator** of the



Rev. Ricky L. Banks, M. Div.

Roanoke Missionary Association. I also serve in the following capacities:

- * Past President of the Ministerial Alliance
- * Secretary to the Ordination Council
- * Chairman of Building Committee
- * Member of Executive Board

The Lord has also allowed me the privilege to serve in this great **Convention** in these areas:

- * Recording Secretary
- * Member of the General Board
- * Steering Committee for Ministers' Council
- * Host Of The 1999 MID-YEAR SESSION

Now my **Brothers and Sisters** as our **Convention** continues to move forward in an even more excellent way, please permit me to serve you as the **4th Vice President** of this **Convention.** I will commit to serving and assisting the **President** as he allows **God** to lead him and this **Convention**, as we strive to maintain the spirituality that our forerunners established.

Please remember that **Success Is Team Work!** I Corinthians 3:8-9 — Now he that planteth and he that waterth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are laborers together with God; ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

Gerontology

Submitted by Dr. Elbert Lee

Be Wary!

It's easy to be drawn into scams and unwittingly give out all sorts of personal information to slick con artists.

What seems to be a simple request for information or a service to help you actually might be a scam. The Federal Trade Commission has issued recent warnings about these three types of contacts:

INTERNET ACCOUNT UPDATES:

If you receive an e-mail request that appears to be from your Internet Service Provider (ISP) stating that your "account information needs to be updated" or that "the credit card you signed up with is invalid or expired and the information needs to be reentered to keep your account active," do not respond without checking with your service provider first.

OLDER AFRICAN-AMERICANS TARGETED

Fliers circulating in many Southern African-American communities claim that African-American communities claim that African-Americans born before 1928 may be eligible for slave reparations under a so-called "Slave Reparation Act" and that those born between 1917 and 1926 can apply for Social Security funds they are due.

According to law enforcement officials, the claims are false. They are being made by skilled identity thieves who are asking people to reveal their name, address, phone number, birth date and Social Security numbers.

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NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

Be Wary

unless you initiated the contact or you are familiar with the business.

Although you probably can't prevent identity theft entirely, you can minimize your risk. Here are some tips from the Federal Trade Commission's website and consumer information booklets:

- Before you reveal any personal identification information, find out how it will be used and whether it will be shared with others. Ask if you have a choice about the use of your information. Ask if you can choose to have it kept confidential.

- Pay attention to your billing cycles. A missing credit card bill could mean an identity thief has taken over your credit card account and changed your billing address to cover his tracks.

- Check bank and credit statements item by item.

- Guard your mail from theft. Deposit outgoing mail in post office collection boxes or at your local post office. Promptly remove your mail from your mailbox after it has been delivered.

- Put passwords on your credit card, bank, and phone accounts. Avoid using easily available information like your mother's maiden name, your birth date, the last four digits of your Social Security number, or your phone number, or a series of consecutive numbers.

- Limit the identification information and the number of cards you carry to what you'll actually need.

- Do not give out personal information on the phone, through the mail, or over the Internet unless you have initiated the contact or know who you're dealing with. Identity thieves may pose as representatives of banks, Internet service providers, and even government agencies to get you to reveal your Social Security number, mother's maiden name, financial account numbers, and other identifying information. Legitimate organizations with whom you do business have the information they need and will not ask you for it.

- Be careful how you dispose of documents. Ideally, you should shred them.

- Be cautious about where you leave personal information in your home, especially if you employ outside help or are having service work done in your home.

- Find out who has access to your personal information at work or at doctor's offices, for example — and verify that the records are kept in a secure location.

- Give your Social Security number only when absolutely necessary. Ask to use other types of identifiers when possible.

- Don't carry your Social Security card; leave it in a secure place.

- Don't post personal information on the Internet, including genealogical or alumni sites.

- Order a copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies every year. Make sure it is accurate and includes only those activities you have authorized. The law allows credit bureaus to charge you up to \$8.50 for a copy of your credit report.

- Your credit report contains information on where you work and live, the credit accounts that have been opened in your name, how you pay your bills, and whether you have been sued, been arrested, or filed for bankruptcy. Checking your report on a regular basis can help you catch mistakes and fraud before they wreak havoc on your personal finances.

The three major credit reporting agencies are:

- Trans Union, P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, Calif. 92834; 800-680-7289.

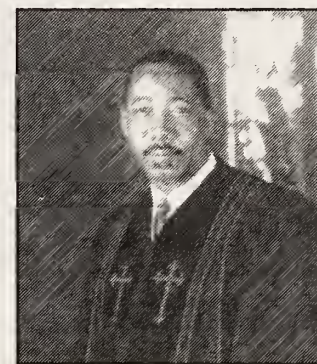
- Equifax, P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, Ga. 30374; 800-525-6285.

- Experian, P.O. Box 1017, Allen, Texas 75013; 800-301-7195.

Exercise your right to stop your "credit header" — the top portion of credit reports — from being sold, which will stop most of those pre-approved offers of credit. Headers list a consumer's name, address, and telephone number (including unlisted ones), mother's maiden name, date of birth, and Social Security number. Selling headers earns credit bureaus tens of millions of dollars annually.

Call the credit bureau's special toll-free line: 888-567-8688. It is an automated call, so listen carefully. Give only one line of information at a time, then press the pound key to continue.

Installation Service Held For Rev. Williams



Rev. Michael Titus Williams

Rev. Michael Titus Williams received the calling to become a minister in 1980. He is currently the pastor of Oberlin Road Baptist Church and has served since September 2001. Previously, Rev. Williams was pastor for Second Baptist Church, Ypsilanti, Michigan; Chapel Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Clarksdale, Mississippi; St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Greenville, Mississippi; and Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Church, Yazoo City, Mississippi.

Throughout his ministry, Rev. Williams has been noted for many achievements. He represented the state of Mississippi by preaching at the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Incorporated, in 1990 in Los Angeles, California. Under his administration, Chapel Hill Missionary Baptist Church erected a \$2 million facility, which earned the distinction of being the largest African-American Baptist church in the Mississippi Delta. During his leadership, Second Baptist Church purchased property for future expansion that was paid in full at the time of purchase. In addition, he oversaw the creation of a computer lab for the membership aimed specifically for youth and started a mentoring program under the J.O.S.H.U.A. government project at the church.

Rev. Williams has been the recipient of numerous honors, including being named among the Outstanding Young Men of America in 1988 and 1998. He was awarded the key to the City of Clarksdale, Mississippi in 1996. He was cited and honored by the mayor of Clarksdale with a

street named in his honor, called Williams Cove.

Rev. Williams received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration in Management from Mississippi State University and a Master of Theology Degree from Andersonville Baptist Seminary and Memphis Theological Seminary. He is pursuing a Doctorate of Ministry Degree from Andersonville Baptist Seminary.

Rev. Williams has held numerous offices and memberships, including being a member of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Incorporated and National Baptist Congress of Christian Education. He has served as First Vice President for the General Missionary Baptist and Education State Convention of Mississippi. He has also been Vice President of the General Missionary Baptist State Convention and General Missionary Baptist and Education State Congress of Mississippi.

Rev. Williams has a son, Justin, who is a student at Mississippi State University.

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USHERS

What Are You Going To Do While Waiting For Jesus To Come?

By Ernestine W. Crawford, Charlotte

The Ushers of District III held their annual fellowship banquet on Saturday, November 17, at the St. Paul Baptist Church's Ray of Hope Center, Charlotte, and Rev. G.K. Moss, host pastor.

The welcome committee (St. Paul and Friendship Ushers) greeted more than 200 ushers and their guest into the Ray Of Hope Center. The greeters, dawned in black and white dressy attire, received the attendants as they entered into a room of round and oblong tables covered with white table covers, pink, white and an aqua color center piece which gave the guest a feeling of celebration.

The aroma of the evening's menu was as impossible to miss as all the folks who were parading around and greeting each other.

The room was buzzing with conversations while a keyboard player sat in a corner playing soft Christmas tunes.

The singing of What a Fellowship by the audience was the announcement signaling that the banquet services had begun.

Host ushers president, David Jones delivered words of greetings and welcome, urging the crowd to enjoy themselves.

Saylor Mattison, 1st vice, emphasized what is, who is, District III President. He stated that District III was composed of nine associations (Ebenezer, Gaston County, Gold Hill, Guilding Light, Mecklenburg-General, Mount Peace, Lane Creek, Rising Star, and Stanley County) for the purpose to foster a more meaningful fellowship. All ushers are encouraged to attend to promote and be involved in the sharing of different responsibilities. District III is committed to being the best servants we can be.

Felton Pendergrass, 2nd Vice President, led the Memorial Tribute which included a scripture

from the 14th Chapter of Revelations, lighting of two candles (symbolizing service and how they let their light so shine). This was a very sacred moment as attendants stood in silence in remembrance, closing with a prayer.

Grace was offered and we were served our dinner of baked or fried chicken, green beans, creamed corn, apple, peach cobbles, or cake, rolls and ice tea.

The banquet service continued as we dined. The youth entertained with a praise dance group and several selections from harp instrument players.

The keynote speaker for the evening, Dr. Clifford Jones, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Charlotte, addressed these waiting ushers and guest from Ephesians 4:32, asking, what are you going to do while waiting for Jesus to come? He stated that this was the one thing that happened in Paul's life-time was that Jesus had not come back during His lifetime. His anticipation was that Jesus was soon to come. Everybody waiting is not a Christian. So he asked, what are you going to do while waiting for Jesus? Evil is in the midst of those waiting for Jesus. The devil specializes in a crowd. Your walk to Calvary is not a scenic cruise. You are a witness how to treat one another. You've been baptized, not crucified. You can't stand at the door with an attitude. You live by faith, not fate. Be ye kind to one another. The challenge is the same, be kind to one another. Anybody can be kind to District III and stay in our little world. The world we live in teaches us to be skeptical, jealous, to watch them and seek to divide us. The challenge is to be kind to those that are evil. They (church folks) won't treat you right. They walk by you and won't acknowledge your presence. You're standing representing the power of the Lord almighty. We

came to see Jesus. Be kind in the world that doesn't promote kindness, a church where folks can be cold and indifferent. You met a man at Calvary, he changed you're life. Don't look at them; how they treat you, you look at them as a child of the cross. The Lord has a way of blessing you in a unique way; your smile will be broader. The Lord will bless your life more.

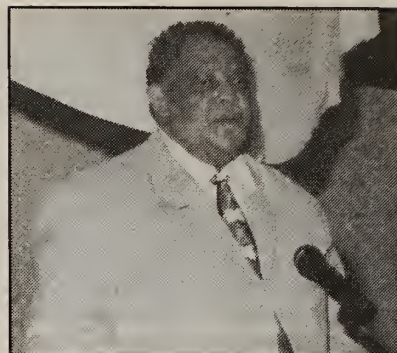
Dr. Jones delivered a very unique and timely message and it was well received.

Awards were presented, among which Friendship's President; Valerie Singleton was crowned Usher Of The Year.

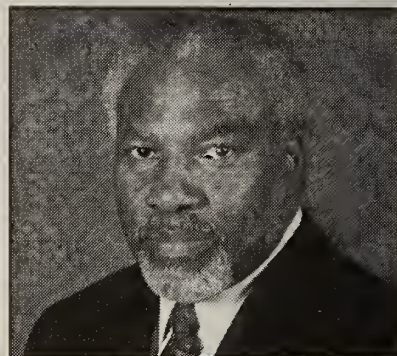
The officers were introduced, door prizes awarded and remarks delivered by President Charlie Fletcher, stating that District III was one of the greatest in the state of North Carolina.

With closing remarks and benediction by the Dean, Dr. C.V. Owens, pastor of First Mt. Zion, thus concluded another successful banquet, co-ordinated by District III's Forest Eaves Jr. and other officers and chairperson.

The caterer was Billy Craig,



Charles Fletcher Sr.
State President



Dr. Clifford A. Jones Sr., Guest Speaker
Senior Minister
Friendship Baptist Church, Charlotte



District III Ushers Annual Fellowship Baptist Banquet, Saturday, Nov. 17, 2001, at 7 p.m.

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Ramah Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Licenses New Minister To Preach The Gospel

By Debra B. Pender

It was the last Sunday of 2001, one day away from New Year's Eve, the night air was chilling and the drive to church was long and dark. As my husband and I drove on the church grounds, we had to create our own parking space because there were none. When we entered into the sanctuary, looking frantically for a seat, we had to walk sideways down the aisle because there were folks in brown folding chairs aligned on both sides.

Suddenly, a kind usher saw the strain on our faces and went once again to the fellowship room for more chairs. Ahh, finally we were here, sitting comfortably in front of the first row of pews — not bad for being late to your own mother's initial sermon service. However, our seating was very brief, for as we began to inhale the smoke that was quickly filling this temple, we gave thanks to God for our safe journey from Raleigh, and became engulfed by the sounds of standing room only saints caught up in their own worship experience. Reports later confirmed some 500 were present that night.

But why, what was so intriguing about one woman preaching her first sermon that would attract so many? Well, I can tell you with confidence that this is no ordinary woman. At Ramah Grove and Thomasville Missionary Baptist Church, she is called the First Lady, or Mrs. Blakney, to some she is Past District Deputy Grand Matron or Field Missionary Blakney, others affectionately refer to her as Sister Blakney, nieces and nephews call her Aunt Mae, while her grandchildren proudly call her their Grandé ma. To her five sons, three daughters-in law, daughter and one son-in-law, Mother Dearest is who she is. Most importantly, to the Rev. Louis Blakney, her husband of forty years and her pastor of twenty-seven, she's his "Sweetie," as they so lovingly refer to each other. (Oops, I may get in trouble for sharing that tidbit.) But on this particular evening, we all had to stand aside, for none of us could compete with her first love. Almighty God or as she calls Him during her message, her Wonderful Counselor.

After a very heart-warming introduction by Daddy, followed by the choir rendering up more Judah Praise, a 5-foot 7 inch, wavy black-haired, very simple but elegantly white dressed lady gracefully approached the pulpit. Already rosy and teary eyed from her own praise and worship, she tried hard to compose herself. But as Mother reflected on how God's grace and mercy had brought her through many hills and mountains to this particular place and season in her life, there was nothing more she wanted to do but cry out Hallelujah!

With Holy Ghost boldness, she plunged into the Gospel of Mark 5:25-28. Now, you are probably thinking just like I was, we've read this remarkable story over and over again and even have acted it out in our church plays and skits. However, we all soon embraced the revelation of God's word, spoken through His feminine-vessel, which was certainly anointed for this time and place. Mark called her "a certain woman," purposely leaving her anonymous, unrevealed and unnamed, to show that any of us could meet her profile. However, with that same drive and passion for perfection that I know and love about Mother, it was clear that she was thorough in her study and research, even down to the actual birth name of this woman, Bernice. Throughout her message, she referenced back to the subject, "This Man called Jesus: Not Your Man, Not My Man, But This Man," clarifying the importance of going to God for a solution to your problems first. Over and over, Bernice went to her husband, and to the physicians, and to the priest, hoping that someone could help her and cure her of this miserable illness. And over and over, she returned to disappointment and suffering. The Holy Spirit stepped in and took over, for as the worshippers popped up and down in their seats like popcorn, you could tell that many there related to Bernice, having gone or even going through their own issues of sickness, isolation, abandonment, depression and even riches to rags experience. For some, their two weeks, two months or two years seemed just as long as Bernice's twelve, for when you're agonizing and hurt-

ing, time doesn't matter because pain is just pain. Mother went further to expound on the significance of the two-letter word, "if," in verse 28, where Bernice, having tried all else, struggles against the crowd, against the odds and says "if I may touch," and well, we know the wonderful miracle that Jesus performed. She went deeper into the text and powerfully quoted other scriptural references in the Bible where the conditional "if" was the determining factor of the end result. As the revelation of the Word sporadically became alive in hearts and minds, you could hear the chains breaking off, as some recognized and admitted their mistake of trying everything and everybody else first, instead of God. You could see the tears of rejoice and celebration. You could smell the fresh aroma of newfound freedom in the air. The movement of God was awesome!

At the close of her message, Mother shared her personal testimony of how at the age of eighteen, she accepted the Lord Jesus Christ into her life. Her first and most important ministry began in her home, serving her husband "as unto the Lord" and being a godly mother and example to her children. Yes, her first congregation consisted of my brothers: Roger, Broadus, Shelton, Tony, and Joseph and me. As we grew older and more independent of Mom, God continued placing different tests and assignments before her. For only He knew what the future held and what preparation she would need. Mother just went on about her business, serving "as unto the Lord." Because of that commitment, God elevated her to serve over several ministries, some being: Sunday School Teacher, Deacon's Wives Ministry, President of Missionary Circle, President of Zion Baptist Association's Ministers and Deacons Wives and Widows Fellowship, and President of Zion's Woman's Auxiliary. Knowing she was ready and prepared for her next assignment, God met with



Rev. Blakney

her in July 1998, and gave her calling to preach the Gospel.

It was three years later that she shares the news with anyone, including her husband and family. Was she unsure of her calling? Never. Was the timing apart of God's plan? Certainly, for He knew the hearts and minds that needed His special touch. He knew those who were still bound by the "traditionalized" thinking that women preachers were not Biblically correct. Thank God that His Word is a living organism and that it springs forth newness each and every time we dare to partake of it. For He truly does great and marvelous things by anyone who makes themselves available to Him. And as the song goes, who are we to question Him — He's Sovereign! But God knew the obstacles that Mother would face, so the timing was critical.

What I admire most is that Mother submitted to God's timing, she was patient and waited on Him. She was trained and prepared, and she knew the consequences of, "if" she went outside the will of God, or "if" she followed her flesh instead of God's directives. So she waited and moved only when God said move. A lesson we all need reminding of every once in a while.

President Bush Names 21 Individuals To President's Advisory Board On Historically Black Colleges, Universities

Submitted by Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

The White House Office of the Press Secretary announced Feb. 1 that President Bush intends to appoint 21 individuals to serve on the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Authorized under Executive Order 130321, the board is charged with identifying ways to strengthen the role of HBCUs and helping to provide quality education opportunities for minority and disadvantaged students. The board members will: (1) advise the U.S. secretary of education on the progress in closing the achievement and attainment gaps between African Americans and other groups of students; (2) issue an annual report to the president on the participants of HBCUs in federal programs; (3) recommend ways to increase the federal role in strengthening the academic programs and resources of HBCUs; and (4) report to the president on how to increase the role of the private sector in strengthening HBCUs.

Members selected to serve on the board include:

- Dennis Ray Boxx of Virginia; vice president for corporate communications, Lockheed Martin, Bethesda, Md.;
- Benjamin Franklin Payton of Alabama; president, Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Ala.;
- Arlene Cassandra Ackerman of California;

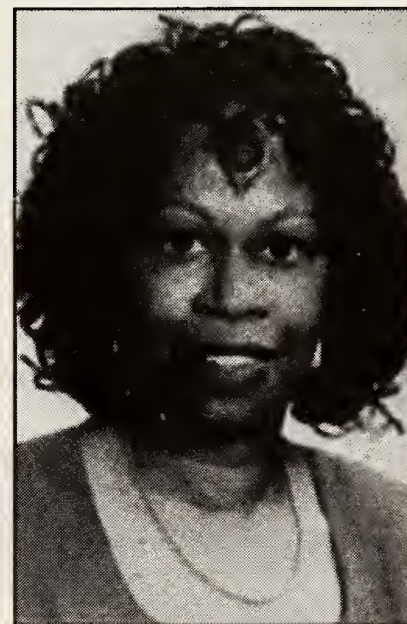
superintendent, San Francisco Unified School District;

- Hazo William Carter Jr. of West Virginia; president, West Virginia State College, Institute, W.Va.;
- Lawrence Arnett Davis Jr. of Arkansas; chancellor, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff;
- Harold Emanuel Doley Jr. of New York; president, Doley Security, Inc. New Orleans, La.;
- Elson Sylvester Floyd of Michigan; president, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo;
- Charles Alphonso Hines of Texas; president/CEO, Prairie View University, Prairie View, Texas;
- Ernest Leon Holloway of Oklahoma; President, Langston University, Langston, Okla.;
- William English Kirwan of Ohio; president, Ohio State University, Columbus;
- Ronald Francis Mason Jr. of Mississippi; president, Jackson State University, Jackson, Miss.;
- Marie Valentine McDemmond of Louisiana; president, Norfolk State University, Norfolk, Va.;
- Bernard Joseph Milano of New Jersey; president, KPMG Foundation, Montvale, N.J.;
- Girard Cecil Miller of Virginia; president/CEO ICMA Retirement Corp., Washington, D.C.;

- James Carmichael Renick of Illinois; chancellor, North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, N.C.;
- Ricardo Romo of Texas; president, University of Texas, San Antonio;
- Dianne Boardley Suber of North Carolina; president, St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, N.C.;
- Joyce Elaine Tucker of Virginia; president, Tucker-Spearman & Associates, Alexandria, Va.;
- Timothy Gregory Walker of Illinois; manager of governmental affairs, Mitsubishi Motors, Normal, Ill.;
- Michael Lucius Lomax of Louisiana; president, Dillard University, New Orleans; and,
- John Kenneth Waddell of Virginia; president, St. Paul's College, Lawrenceville, Va.

"Creating education opportunities for America's minority and disadvantaged students is one of this department's main objectives," U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige said. "I look forward to working with the outstanding men and women President Bush has selected to help close the achievement gap between minority students and their peers and to expand their higher education opportunities."

The individuals selected by President Bush for this advisory board include representatives of historically black colleges and universities,



Carol J. Smith, Associate Editor

other institutions of higher education, business and financial institutions, and private foundations. They will work together as a group to put forward recommendations and reports to the president.

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Building Vocal Technique in the Church Choir
Women Composers in Church Music
MASTERCLASSES (Must Come Prepared to Perform)
a. Voice b. Organ c. Piano
d. Hammond Organ e. Conducting

CHOIR GUILD WORKSHOP CO-DIRECTORS
Mr. Royzell Dillard, Hampton University, Hampton, VA
Dr. James Abbingtion, Shaw University, Raleigh, N.C.
Conference Presenters June 2-7, 2002
Conference Preacher, Bishop T.D. Jakes, Dallas, TX
Sociology of Religion, Dr. Carolyn Showell, Ellicott City, MD
Morning Worship Leader, Rev. Maurice Watson, Omaha, NE
Self Liberation, Bishop Noel Jones, Los Angeles, CA
Pastoral Theology, Dr. H. Beecher Hicks Jr., Washington, D.C.
Communion Preacher, Dr. Charles E. Booth, Columbus, OH
A.C.D. Vaughn Senior Statesmen Hour June 4, 2002
Dr. A.C.D. Vaughn, Baltimore, MD, Moderator
Dr. Paul Martin, Denver, CO, Panelist
Dr. Samuel McKinney, Seattle, WA, Panelist
Dr. Clarence Newsome, Washington, D.C., Panelist
Dr. Benjamin W. Robertson, Richmond, VA, Panelist
G.A. Crawley Women in Ministry/Partnership Panel June 5, 2002
Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook, Bronx, N.Y., Moderator
Bishop Andrew Turner, Inglewood, CA, Partnership Panel
Rev. Wanda Turner, Inglewood, CA, Partnership Panel

Registration form for
The 88th Annual Hampton University Ministers' Conference & 68th Annual Choir Directors'/Organists' Guild Workshop
Web site: www.hamptonu.edu
E-mail address: ministersconference@hamptonu.edu

Ministers		Music	
<input type="checkbox"/> Presenter	<input type="checkbox"/> Pastor	<input type="checkbox"/> Chaplain	<input type="checkbox"/> Minister/Director of Music
<input type="checkbox"/> Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> Deacon	<input type="checkbox"/> Evangelism	<input type="checkbox"/> Choir Director
<input type="checkbox"/> Board Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Conference Guest	<input type="checkbox"/> Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Pianist
<input type="checkbox"/> Layman	<input type="checkbox"/> Office	<input type="checkbox"/> Past President	<input type="checkbox"/> Choir Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Bishop	<input type="checkbox"/> Elder	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Organist
			<input type="checkbox"/> Soprano
			<input type="checkbox"/> Alto
			<input type="checkbox"/> Tenor
			<input type="checkbox"/> Bass

Seminary Student* (School name) _____
*(To qualify for a \$95 registration fee, students must submit copy of current enrollment status)
Send all correspondence to my (check one box):
☐ Home ☐ Church/Office
Print your name and title as it should appear on your ID Badge
HOME ADDRESS (PLEASE PRINT)
First Name _____
Last Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
E-mail address: _____
CHURCH/BUSINESS ADDRESS (PLEASE PRINT)
Name of Church/Business _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____

CWS Responds To Volcano Catastrophe In D.R. Congo

Submitted By Carol J. Smith
Associate Editor
To help, direct funds to:
Church World Service, 28606 Phillips St., Elkhart, IN 46514. More information/credit card donations to 1-800-297-1516 or on-line at www.churchworldservice.org
Church World Service is helping to meet emergency needs among the some 500,000 people affected by the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano near Goma in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.
The eruption began January 17, and an estimated two-thirds of Goma's half million residents fled the six-foot-high rivers of lava, which destroyed three-fourths of that city and devastated at least 14 nearby villages. At least 95 people have died. The lava also spilled into nearby Lake Kivu, poisoning the water and putting people who drink it or bathe in it at risk for cholera and dysentery.
People sought refuge just across the border in Gisenyi, Rwanda, or in the forest. But then, as the eruptions subsided, many returned to Goma, reluctant to remain in temporary camps in Rwanda.
The needs are numerous whether residents remain displaced or have subsequently

returned home. Church World Service and partners around the world, including churches in Congo and Rwanda, are working to provide water and sanitation, food, blankets, kitchen utensils, firewood, shelter materials and clothes for 60,000 people, with special attention to the most vulnerable, especially children and the elderly.
Long-time CWS partner Interchurch Medical Assistance (IMA) is sending medicine from Kinshasa, Congo's capital city, and from the United States to Goma. Church World Service has committed \$10,000 toward shipping costs. In 2001, CWS helped IMA rehabilitate more than 50 medical clinics in Congo, including one near Goma, which is planning to help in the current emergency.
Church World Service is the global humanitarian response ministry of the National Council of Churches and its 36 Protestant, Orthodox and Anglican member communions. Volcano response is being coordinated through Action by Churches Together (ACT) International, a worldwide network of churches and related agencies of which CWS is a member.

Please reserve the following campus rooms:

Quantity	Unit Price	Total
_____ Strawberry Banks (water view)	\$325	_____
_____ Strawberry Banks (courtyard view)	\$275	_____
_____ Air-Conditioned (with roommate)	\$110	_____
_____ Air-conditioned (no roommate)	\$220	_____
_____ Non-Air-Conditioned (w/roommate)	\$75	_____
_____ Non-Air-Conditioned (no roommate)	\$150	_____

PLEASE NOTE: All residence halls have communal bathrooms

Roommate's Name _____
MEAL TICKET ☐ YES ☐ NO
Full Plan (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner) \$100 _____
Modified Plan (Breakfast, Lunch) \$60 _____
HOUSING/MEALS SUBTOTAL
☐ Check here if you require wheelchair/handicap access
Please reserve the following:

Quantity	Unit	Price	Total
_____	Early Registration Fee	\$125	_____
_____	Seminary Student***	\$95	_____
_____	Music Packet	\$30	_____
_____	Continuing Ed. Unit**	\$25	_____
_____	Executive Board Luncheon	\$15	_____
_____	2002 Conference Cas. Album	\$100	_____
_____	2002 Concert Cassette	\$10	_____

CONFERENCE FEES SUBTOTAL
Early registration deadline: March 30, 2002
*Registrations postmarked after March 30, 2002, will be processed as on-site registration and will require additional money to register.
*On-site Fee: Registration (\$150) Seminary students (\$120)
**Form required for Cont. Ed. Units; pick up at registration check-in.
***Proof of enrollment required for all seminary students.
PAYMENT: NO PERSONAL OR CHURCH/BUSINESS CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED
Payment Method:
☐ Money Order ☐ Certified Check ☐ Cashiers Check
Credit Card (specify): ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover
Card# _____ Exp. Date _____/_____
Signature _____
(Signature is required for processing credit card payments)

HOUSING/MEALS SUBTOTAL _____ **FEE SUBTOTAL** _____
OTHER FEES/DISCOUNTS _____ **GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED** _____
Registration begins at 4 p.m. Sunday only, June 2, 2002 • Monday-Thursday. Hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Registration refund deadline is May 25, 2002 (refund requests must be in writing).
*No refund deposits will be processed after May 25.
Check-in time for Pre-Registration is 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, 2002. NO EXCEPTIONS.
Credit card applications may be faxed to (757)727-5643 Attn: Special Projects.
Check-out time for all participants is 2 p.m. on Friday, June 7, 2002.. NO EXCEPTIONS.
For information regarding registration, please call Special Projects at (757) 727-5367.
For information regarding concert tapes. Cds and videos, call Media Productions at (757) 727-5167.
Mail Form to: Hampton University, Office of Special Projects, Hampton, VA 23668

Support the GBSC events!

Happy Easter!!

SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS

SHAW UNIVERSITY & DIVINITY NEWS

FROM THE OFFICE OF
3RD VICE PRESIDENT REV. NORMAN T. DAVIS

Grace, Mercy and Peace be unto you from God the Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

Spring is just around the corner and new life is everywhere. The trees are budding, the flowers are blooming, and the glory of God can be seen over the whole earth. The farmer is turning the soil for plant, looking for a new harvest.

For Christians it is spring cleaning time. The Apostle Paul writes that, we need to lay aside every weight that will beset us.

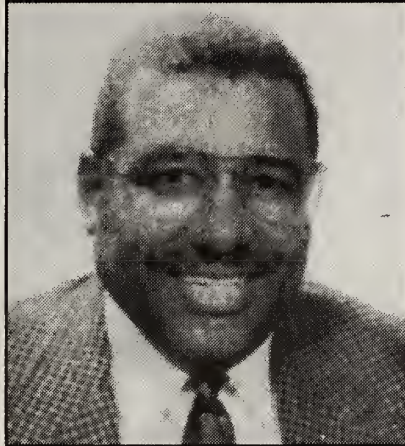
So we need to clean out all that old stuff. And begin a new life. The opportunity is here and the day of salvation is near.

How can we neglect so greater salvation. Let us accept the challenge and go forth to help save the world and make it a better place for all mankind.

Each month I always speak with the office of the President of Shaw University and the Divinity School.

All is well. Shaw is having a great year, and striving.

So let us get behind our President and Dean and give one hundred percent support for our school. Let us rise to a new height



Rev. Norman T. Davis

with support.

God has blessed us as a people, so let us praise him for His goodness and mercy.

911 was a real shocker to all, but life goes on and we must get beyond September 11, 2001 and live our lives for Christ as it was our last day. Christ is the answer to all of our problems. If only we would turn to him.

God Bless and God keep until the next time.

Highlights of SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL Annual Ministers' Conference • March 18-20, 2002

Monday, March 18	Tuesday, March 19	Wednesday, March 20th
8 a.m. Registration	6:30 a.m. Early Morning Prayer 8 a.m. Registratoin 9 a.m. Lecture Dr. James Forbes, Author <i>Preaching and the Holy Spirit</i>	6:30 a.m. Early Morning Prayer 8 a.m. Registration 9 a.m. Lecture Dr. James Forbes, Author <i>Preaching and the Holy Spirit</i>
1 p.m. Plenary Session 2 p.m. Music Workshop, Dr. James Abbington	3 p.m. Worship Service/ Alumnus Rev. Daniel W. Lilly President, Alumni Assoc.	3 p.m. Worship Service Rev. Trinette McCray American Baptist Convention Ecumenical Holy Communion Dr. Quincy Scott Jr.
7 p.m. Worship Service Dr. James Forbes Riverside Baptist, NYC	7 p.m. Worship Service Dr. Gardner Taylor	
8:30 p.m. Late Night Service Evangelist Shirley Caesar Mt. Calvary, Raleigh, NC	8:30 P.M. Late Night Service Rev. George Jackson Citadel of Faith, Thomasville, N.C.	

VACANT POSITIONS

WATTS CHAPEL MISSIONARY

3703 Tryon Road, Raleigh, N.C. 27606

The Pulpit Search Committee of Watts Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Raleigh, N.C. is searching for applicants for a full time Senior Pastor.

Qualifications

- To provide leadership to the members of the church enabling them to focus on the teaching of the Bible.
- To feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly and of a ready mind; "Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock." (I Peter 5:2,3 KJV)
- Must have a minimum of five years experience as a Senior Pastor with a large diverse congregation
- Must have at least three years of preaching experience at the same church, having, experience in preaching revivals.
- Must be a licensed and ordained minister with a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist Doctrine, Church Policies and Church Practices
- Must have a minimum of a Master of Divinity or working toward this degree from an accredited college or seminary
- The Senior Pastor must have a strong ministry to reach the unsaved, by preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Must visit the sick members in the hospitals, rest homes and the sick and shut-ins. Deliver regular communion to these members along with the deacons. Minister to bereave families.
- Must work with, support and attend the Johnston District Association and the General Baptist State Convention Association programs on a regular basis through this church (Watts Chapel Baptist Church)
- Will have a desire to plan and lead weekly Prayer Meeting and Bible Study
- Support the church's financial program
- Moderate church conferences
- Must promote tithing and missions
- Family and Community oriented
- Works effectively with the total church, its leaders, administrators and counselors
- Must be able to show love and work with all age groups
- Spiritually mature, having a vision for the church

All interested applicants should send a resume, a copy of certificate of license and ordination, a copy of all Degrees, three Business and two personal references. (NO FAMILY MEMBERS) to:

Watts Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Committee
3703 Tryon Road, Raleigh, N.C. 27606
NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292

Needed: Minister of Music or Organist.

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas.
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

FULL-TIME MINISTER/COORDINATOR OF MUSIC UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

Durham, N.C.

Union Baptist Church is seeking a full-time Minister/Coordinator of Music. The principal function for this position is to assist the pastor and congregation in planning, conducting and evaluating a comprehensive music ministry.

Responsibilities

- To direct the planning, coordinating, operation and evaluation of a comprehensive music ministry
- To chair the Music Committee
- To work with the Music Committee in determining ministry goals
- To assist the pastor in planning congregational worship
- To ensure that a musician is available for all services
- To schedule choirs to accompany the pastor
- To supervise the work of all musicians
- To ensure that all musical instruments are maintained in good working order
- To accompany the choirs as needed
- To conduct music workshops as needed
- To recommend an annual music budget in conjunction with the Music Committee
- To perform other duties as assigned

Qualifications

The applicant must be a maturing Christian with the ability to play both piano and organ. He or she must be able to work with diverse groups and be a team player. The applicant must have a degree in music or a substantial background in church music.

Contact Information

Letters of interest should be sent to the following address on or before March 31, 2002:
Personnel Committee
Union Baptist Church
904 North Roxboro Street, Durham, N.C. 27701 • (919) 688-1034 • (919) 688-1389 (FAX)

MUSICIAN NEEDED GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday.

Prepare Choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship.

Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times.

Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church functions.

Direct congregation in congregational hymns

Must be able to play be ear as well as read music

To Apply Call:

(704) 532-6813 or E-mail to GalileeNC@aol.com

Church is located in Stanly County (40 minutes east of Charlotte)

VACANT POSITIONS

Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church is seeking applications for pastoral vacancy. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced, licensed and ordained missionary Baptist minister, living according 1st Timothy 3; 1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. Must be able to develop and share a vision for the future growth and development for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies, and practices.
7. Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.
8. Must be willing to work with the New Bern Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.
9. Education: Possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in seminary training, and willing to do further study.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. One business and two personal reference (no family members).

All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

To: Chairman Deacon Mayor B. Credle
For Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5972 N.C. Hwy. 304, Bayboro, N.C. 28515

WANTED

Minister of Music for a Missionary Baptist Church: Plan, coordinate, operate and evaluate the Music Ministry. High school graduate with proven musical ability and/or college or school of music graduate. Experience. Basic knowledge and skills in reading, playing, conducting, singing, teaching, and working with groups.

Salary negotiable.

Send resume to: Rev. Darryl Canady

PO Box 849, Wilson, NC 27893

And/or call (252) 243-4496 for more information.

NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED at Friendship Baptist Church Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:

Pastor Selection Committee

PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472



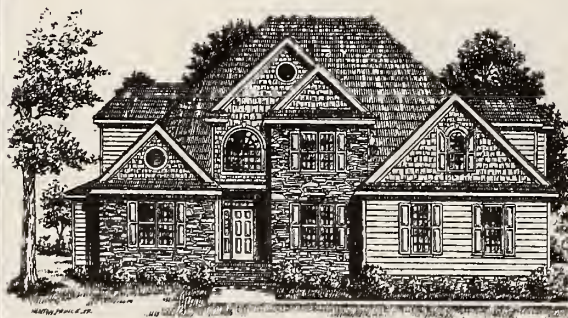
4010 Barrett, Suite 205,
Raleigh, NC 27609



Michelle Barrow
Broker-In-Charge
Multi-Million Dollar Produce
Office (919) 571-9973
Fax (919) 571-8549
Home (919) 662-7304

E-Mail: michelle@keatonbarrowrealty.com
Web: keatonbarrowrealty.com

Tupper Place I



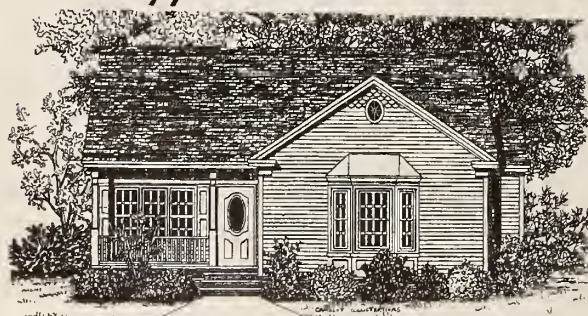
Homes from
\$105,000

- Choose 13 Lots
- Special Financing
- Low Down Payment

Homes from
\$180,000

- Choose 13 Lots
- Custom-built Homes by Approved Builders
- Basement Lots Available

Tupper Place II



Homes Marketed by Keaton Barrow Realty (919) 571-9973
Developed by Shaw Development Corp./City of Raleigh
Call for Open House Dates

The Elephant in the Courtroom

An adult education curriculum exploring issues of race and justice in the state of North Carolina and touching on themes of community, forgiveness and action.



Based on a report by the North Carolina Council of Churches' Task Group on Racism and Restorative Justice. A Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation grant makes this curriculum available free of charge by contacting the Council at 919-828-6501.



ECCLESIASTES 3:4 "... AND A TIME TO LAUGH..."



Minister Alcindor Hankins
Gospel Comedian

405 Creekbluff Drive

Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina 27526
(919) 557-1227

Psalms 46:10 "Be Still and Know That I am God"
"He's More God Than I Ever Need"

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For additional information call: 1-800-337-4144

Diabetic National Services, Founded 1995

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VACANT POSITIONS

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 644/601 Pine Street, Oakboro, NC 28129

The Pastoral Search Committee of the Galilee Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. The minimum qualifications are desired for consideration:

- ordained Baptist minister
- be able to work well with church, promoting Church agenda
- teach and preach competently
- possess high spiritual, moral and ethical integrity
- possess strong knowledge of the Scriptures
- visit sick and be active in community
- active in Zion Association
- seminary training preferred and willing to advance studies
- attend church ministry functions
- coordinate and develop ministries to accommodate growing church

We have church services every Sunday (including 5th). We are looking for a pastor, not someone who only desires to preach. In interested please send resumes to: Deacon James Ashcraft, PO Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129.

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is accepting resumes for its vacant pulpit. Qualifications include but are not limited to the following:

1. Called by God.
2. Preaches, teaches, and lives according to the New Testament.
3. Adheres to the tends of the missionary Baptist Church.
4. Is able to work cooperatively with church officers and members.
5. Has a plan for the spiritual and physical growth of the church.
6. Lives within a reasonable distance from the church.

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is a small rural church that has services every Sunday. We seek a sincere, dedicated, humble, honest Christian minister as our shepherd. Please send your resume to the following address:

Mr. Richard Moore, Chairman

The Pulpit Committee

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church, 4462 North Carolina Hwy. 801 North Mocksville, North Carolina 27028 • Telephone: (336) 998-3362

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

First Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist Ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications.

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A degree from an accredited college and seminary
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Community oriented
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the youth
6. Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
7. Good oral and written communications skills and ability to communicate with all age groups
8. A minimum of 5 years experience as senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
9. Must be willing to attend Sunday School.

Responsibilities include:

Plan and implementation of innovative religious programs, activities and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Please send resumes to:

Tanya M. Autry, Chair

The Pastoral Search Committee, First Missionary Baptist Church

103 Church Street, Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

The Greater Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, established in 1993 with 200 members, is seeking a licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist Senior Pastor with 2-4 years Seminary training and college graduate. Pastor to serve as an effective spiritual leader, teacher and administrator with the following qualifications:

- Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.
- Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
- Must possess strong administrative, organizational and leadership skills.
- Must possess strong moral values.
- Must be community oriented.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience
2. A copy of college degree, certificate of license and ordination
3. Name, address, and telephone number of (1) business and (3) personal references — excluding relatives.

Please mail all requested information for review to:

c/o Pulpit Committee

P.O. Box 241231, Charlotte, NC 28224-1231

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

GATEWAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CREDIT UNION

"Building A Spirit of Community"

Announces 3 Months Enrollment Drive

Join Now!

**Churches, Associations,
invited to become
members.**

**Open your
accounts NOW!**

**GATEWAY: THE CREDIT UNION WITH
YOU IN MIND**

Serving Warren, Vance, Person and Franklin counties. Gateway Credit Union is doing its best to provide its members and surrounding community with the highest quality service. Gateway has been dedicated to serving its community for a number of years. By offering services designed with accessibility, courtesy and practical means in mind, GCDUCU offers its members satisfaction, understanding and dependability.

THE GATEWAY ADVANTAGE

GATEWAY began serving the members of Vance, Person, Warren and Franklin counties in 1994. As a Community Development Credit Union, GATEWAY continues to pro-

mote community, self sufficiency, and good money management. And in the new millennium, Gateway will remain committed to *"Building A Spirit of Community."*

OPENING DOORS AND HELPING THE COMMUNITY

OUR MISSION

Gateway's mission is to promote thrift among its members by affording them an opportunity to accumulate their savings, and to create for them a source of credit at a fair and reasonable rate of interest, and to provide for its members an opportunity to use and control their own money to improve their economic and social condition.

CREDIT UNION MEMBER SERVICES

In its few years of existence, Gateway has gained a committed and growing membership base. Currently serving a thousand plus members each day. Gateway offers services designed to enhance the member's experience. By offering quality services, the door to success has been opened for many of the credit union's members. Take a moment to see what we have to offer.

Loan Programs

- Automobile
- Share Secured
- Signature
- Home Improvement
- Education

Deposit Accounts

- Share (savings)
- Share Certificates
- Christmas Club
- ATM

Youth Credit Union

- Monthly meetings
- Share accounts (savings)
- Annual Trips
- Leadership Skills

Other Services Include:

Mortgage Referral Partnership
Pre-qualification for ... church loans

MEMBER APPLICATION

Member: _____

Account #: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Employment: _____

SSN/TN: _____

Driver's License: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____

Eligibility for Membership: _____

ACCOUNT TYPE

- ☐ Share (savings)
- ☐ Share Certificates
- ☐ Christmas Club
- ☐ Loan
- ☐ ACH, Direct Deposit
- ☐ Payroll Deduction
- ☐ Other

Your Account is

Special Recognition for New Participating Groups
and Organizations

For More Information

Gateway's staff is dedicated to providing you with the best service possible. To inquire about becoming a member of our community development credit union, please contact:

Operations Manager: Thomas Spence

at Gateway Credit Union

314 South Garnett Street

Gateway Building, Suite 10

Henderson, N.C. 27536

Business (252) 492-5854 or Fax (252) 492-7832

VACANT POSITIONS

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENT

Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:
Attention: Trustees
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

Notice: Pastor needed at Star of Zion Church, New Bern, N.C. 28562.

Submit application to:
Pastor Selection Committee
2101 Chestnut Ave., New Bern, N.C. 28562

The Center Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC is currently seeking a "Minister of Music" who is able to work well with a diverse group of singers including youth. Must be able to play keyboard, piano, and organ. Must be dependable and have good moral character. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to Center Baptist Church, Attention: Personnel Committee, POB 550064, Gastonia, NC 28055 or fax cover letter and resume to Personnel Committee at 704-824-7683.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:
Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343 CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- *Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
 - *Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
 - *Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.
- Salary negotiable.** Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano
- *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music
- *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 • Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

MINISTER OF MUSIC

St. John Baptist Church, 8910 Old Annapolis Road
Columbia, Maryland 21045 • 410-992-6977

Overall Duty: To assist the Pastor in shaping, defining, and effectuating the musical elements of the worship experience.

I. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

- A. Bachelor's degree in music, or at least 5 years of experience as...
- B. At least 3 years of experience as accomplish/director for choral group(s)
- C. Proficiency in playing piano and organ
- D. At least 3 church-related references

II. OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Personal faith in Jesus Christ...
- B. Background (via education experience) in sacred music, including hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel, and praise songs.
- C. Ability to relate well with directors and members of church choirs.
- D. Efficient administrative skills to ensure timely and effective communication with all elements of the musical worship experience.
- E. Ability to teach, direct, compose and play (by written notes or by ear) the various forms of sacred music.
- F. Ability to recognize and respond with appropriate music to the spiritual moods of the service.
- G. Excellent interpersonal and conflict resolution skills.

ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties should send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee
St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983.

Happy Easter!

PULPIT VACANCY FIRST CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

240 Fields Drive
Sanford, NC 27330

The Pastor Search Committee of First Calvary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. First Calvary Baptist Church is a community-oriented church with a rich history of spiritual leadership in the Sanford/Lee County area. First Calvary has been under the leadership of the retiring pastor for over 37 years. The ideal candidate must be able to work closely with the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that affect the congregation and church viability.

Major responsibilities and duties to include the following: plan and lead worship service, provide administrative leadership to the church staff, provide spiritual leadership to the congregation, counsel church members during time of personal problems, implement religious programs for our youth, visit the sick and shut-in at home and in the hospital, and preside at funerals and weddings.

Minimum qualifications and experience: must be born again Christian individual, licensed and ordained Baptist Minister with a BS/BA Degree in a relevant field and preferably a Theological Degree from an accredited college or university, five years experience serving as Pastor or Assistant Pastor of a Baptist Church, must possess excellent oral and written communication skills and have the ability to lead a diverse group of people.

Salary: commensurate with qualifications and experience; we offer an excellent fringe benefits package to include housing and utilities at the Church Parsonage, medical insurance and retirement plan. Interested candidates should forward resume with cover letter, and salary history to:

First Calvary Baptist Church
Pastor Search Committee
240 Fields Drive
Sanford, NC 27330

All resumes must be postmarked by March 31, 2002. No telephone calls please.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- Some college and seminary training preferred

Pulpit Vacancy

The pulpit committee of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants should possess the following qualifications:

Must be a born-again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called minister with strong family and community values.

Must be a licensed Missionary Baptist minister.

Must be able to preach and teach Bible study.

Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.

Must have experience as a senior or associate pastor.

Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Must possess strong and proven administrative skill and experience.

Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.

Must be a just and fair individual and possess tact.

College degree is preferred but will consider any combination of education and pastorate experience.

Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church.

Resumes should be sent to:

The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chair
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909
elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

The Love of God can make your world go 'round!

VACANT POSITIONS

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its pastoral vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the first and third Sunday.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented.
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GOLDSBORO, N.C., INC.

601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530 • (919) 735-2176

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, with a membership of approximately 200 members, is seeking a full-time pastor.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
2. Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
3. Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
4. Council members having personal, family and/or work related problems
5. Support religious programs for children, youth and adult.
6. Develop and instruct weekly Bible Study Classes and directing the Bible Study and Sunday School Staffs
7. Support the church's financial program
8. Involve the congregation in the existing church programs and ministries.
9. Meet regularly with the chairperson of the Deacon, Deaconess, Trustee Board and other Auxiliaries of the church
10. Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
11. Preside at funerals and weddings unless the families have someone else of their own choosing
12. Support the World Mission of the church
13. Share in the civic leadership of the community

QUALIFICATIONS-EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

SAVED AND FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ. Degree in Theology/Religion preferred. Ordained and at least five (5) years experience as a pastor of a MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Interested candidates should send a resume with a cover letter to:

Pulpit Committee, c/o Kirby L. Hamilton, Chairman
Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Goldsboro, Inc.,
601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530

P.S. Please include a copy of your credentials (Ordination Certificate and License)

POSITION: SENIOR PASTOR/FULL-TIME

START DATE: IMMEDIATE

The Ebenezer Baptist Church search committee is hereby accepting resumes for the position of Senior Pastor. The candidate must be a licensed/ordained Baptist Minister.

We respectfully request that you only apply if you are sincerely interested and meet all qualifications.

Requirements/Qualifications:

1. Must be called by God, born again and filled with the holy spirit to preach and teach the word of God.
2. Ordained Minister with preferred pastoral experience of 3-5 years with a minimum of a bachelors degree in theology from a School of Divinity. Furnished copy of license and ordination certificate.
3. Possess a strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, policies, and practices. (The Covenant and Code of Ethics)
4. Possess good moral and ethical conduct according to 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:7-9 and abstain from such activities and inclinations as those cited in Romans 1:26-27.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator, and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with an emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the Church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries, and committees.

The Committee will provide each candidate with an information packet. All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Ebenezer Baptist Church

Attn: Deacon Milton Buxton/Confidential

P.O. Box 248

Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be a born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave., High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Please send cover letter and resume to:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Attn: James W. Flake, Pastor, 909 Barbee Avenue

NEEDED — PASTOR

The Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church of Elizabeth City, North Carolina announces a pastoral vacancy and is accepting resumes from ordained Baptist Ministers with strong Baptist roots.

We prefer that the pastoral candidates possess the following qualifications:

- a. Born Again Christian, spirit filled, and divinely called minister with strong family and community values
- b. Must be a Missionary Baptist
- c. Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine, church policies and procedures
- d. Seminary Training preferred
- e. Ability to Teach Bible Study
- f. Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church

Salary: Negotiable

Send information to:

Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church

Pulpit Committee

P.O. Box 1421, Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1421

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VACANT POSITIONS

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest Congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587 • (919) 870-8874

NEED A FILL-IN OR AN INTERIM PASTOR?

Qualified, Experienced, Healthy and available for service. Call or write:

REV. MELVIN W. GATTIS

3907 Bivins Road
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Phone: (919) 479-0982

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKS PASTOR

On April 20, 2000, Rev. Curtis E. Bender, pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, tendered his resignation. He has blessed Zion and the Omaha community with his leadership for more than 20 years. Although we will miss our Pastor, we humbly submit to the Will of God. Consequently, the recently formed Zion Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee would like to solicit your help in this search. Please notify the members of your District/Convention that the Zion Baptist Church pulpit is vacant and that we have begun accepting applications for Pastor. Among other things, we require applicants who:

- Are Called by God. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
- Are Graduates of an accredited and respected seminary.
- Have had a minimum of 10 years as pastor of a large Black Baptist Church. (500 or more members).
- Are members in good standing and with a track record of membership in the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc.
- Have proven leadership and training skills.

Interested candidates are asked to request in writing applications from:

Zion Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
2215 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68110

Please pray for our effort and thank you for your help in this notification.

Yours in Christ, Dea. Jesse Sharpe, Committee Chairman, Sis. Jacqueline C. Hart, Church Clerk

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589 Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship service.

Please submit resumes to the address above. Any inquiries, please contact Pastor Lindsay at (919) 361-3003.

MOUNT PLEASANT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 115 Harrellsville, NC 27942

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church located in Hertford County, NC is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Our worship services are each Sunday of the month.

Qualifications:

- Must be a born again Christian
- Must be a licensed and ordained Baptist Minister
- Must have at least 5 or more years of experience as Pastor/Assistant Pastor
- Must have a knowledge of Biblical Doctrine of the Holy Scriptures
- Must have a vision for the church
- Should possess administrative skills
- Must have at least a High School education and Bible training
- Must be able to teach as well as preach
- Must be able to serve every Sunday

All interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
3. Two letters of reference. Please do not use a relative.

Send information to:

Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Pastoral Search Committee
Attn: Deacon Eugene White
815 Swains Mill Rd.
Harrellsville, NC 27942

CHURCH MUSICIAN

First Missionary Baptist Church of Clinton is seeking a person to serve as musician. The responsibilities include playing for the Adult Choir on the First Sunday, and accompanying the other choirs on the remaining Sundays.

Qualifications:

Should be able to play the piano and the organ, and be able to work well with diverse groups of singers. Experience in sacred music is a must as well as the ability to read music and play by ear.

The musician is also expected to accompany the pastor and choirs to outside functions when necessary. Interested persons may send resume to: First Baptist Church, 900 College St., Clinton, N.C. 28328.

MUSICIAN WANTED Metropolitan Baptist Church Rocky Mount, NC

Progressive church music department looking for Director of Music to provide leadership for growth spiritually and musically. Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, etc.) or equivalent. Able to lead music and direct/accompany. Available on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays. On call as needed.

To apply call:

Metropolitan Baptist Church
Rocky Mount, NC
252-442-4623

POSITION:

Interim Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a congregation of 400 active members located in the North Philadelphia area of the city.

ORGANIZATION:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

DESCRIPTION

The Miller Memorial Baptist Church is currently seeking an individual to perform in the capacity of **INTERIM PASTOR**. This position is not intended or expected to lead to the role of permanent pastor. This role requires you to focus on the pastoral task in the congregation during the interim period to help free the leaders of the congregation to focus on seeking a new pastor. You will provide leadership and stability in a positive manner during this transitional period of our church. The ability to settle issues and migrate the congregation from the former pastor to the new pastor, is critical. You will be working closely with the chairpersons of the Deacon Board and Trustee Board when addressing issues that effect the congregation at large. While the duration of this position is unknown as this time, you must be available for any period from two months to two years if needed.

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
- Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial, and pulpit staff
- Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
- Support and/or lead religious programs for children, youth and adults
- Develop and instruct weekly bible study classes
- Actively and visibly support the church's financial program
- Directly involve the congregation in the planning and leadership of existing church programs and ministries
- Meet regularly with the chairpersons of the Deacon, Deaconess and Trustee Boards for planning and direction
- Work closely with the Superintendent of the Sunday School
- Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
- Preside at funerals and weddings
- Support the world mission of the church
- Participate in local community activities, issues and problems
- Present social issues before members

QUALIFICATIONS - EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelors Degree in Divinity, Masters of Divinity Degree preferable
- Ordained for a minimum of five years
- Five years experience as a pastor or assistant pastor of a Baptist Church
- Experience in working as an interim pastor is a plus.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For immediate consideration, please send a cover letter and your resume to the following address:

Miller Memorial Baptist Church
Attention: Deacon David Pridgen
1518 North 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121

MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF DURHAM is seeking a person to serve as musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

- Should be able to play the piano and organ.
- Work well with diverse range of singers.
- Experience in diverse music (Hymns, gospel, contemporary, traditional).
- Ability to read music and play by ear.
- Be available for scheduled rehearsals, Second Sunday Morning Worship Service.
- Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church engagements as scheduled.
- Be available for evening programs as scheduled.

Interested persons may send resume to:

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, 4610 Fayetteville Rd.
Durham, NC 27713, Attention: Sis. Esther Thompson or Call 544-8596

GENESIS BAPTIST

Youth Minister needed full-time.

Qualified candidates must be trained at a seminary, mature spiritually, and experienced working with children and youth. Mail or fax resume and salary requirements to:

Genesis Baptist Church
Cathy Daniels-Lee, Search Committee Chairperson
2812 E. Bessemer Ave., Greensboro, NC 27405
Ph. (336) 379-1133 • Fax. (336) 379-1615
Web site: www.greensboro.com/genesis

VACANT POSITIONS

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development.
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
7. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups.
8. Have excellent teaching ability.

Other responsibilities include:
Planning, organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promote church growth and progress.

Please send resumes to:
Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman, Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563, % The Pulpit Committee

SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist Church is accepting letters of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be born again, filled with the holy spirit and called by God to preach the word.
2. Must be family oriented and possess a strong, Godly character.
3. Prefer college degree but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
4. Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
7. Must have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:
Letter of interest or resume
Copy of license and ordination certificate
Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript
The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.
The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.
All correspondence must be addressed as follows:
Savannah Missionary Baptist Church
ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church

Route 1, Lake Wendell Rd., Wendell, NC 27591

The Lee's Crossroads Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested, ordained Baptist ministers. Please include the following in your resume:

1. Name/address/day and evening phone numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools attended
5. Pastoral Experience
6. References

Qualifications

1. Born again Christian
2. Ordained Baptist Minister
3. Ability to preach and teach God's Holy Word
4. Possess leadership and administrative skills
5. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrine
6. Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct

Resumes may be sent to:
Lee's Crossroad Baptist Church, Pulpit Committee
Deacon James R. Adams, 1342 Medlin Rd., Clayton, N.C. 27520

Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number of Years)
6. References

Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Policies and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:
Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee
Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

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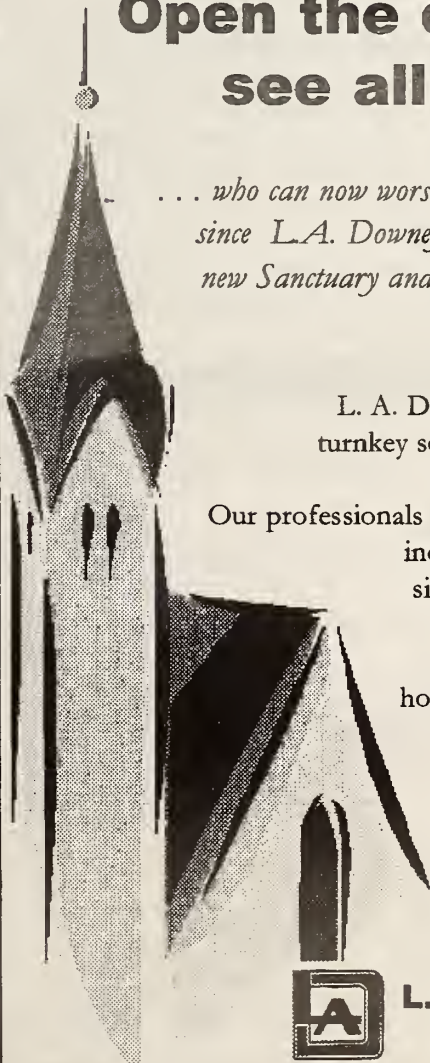
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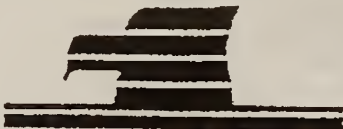
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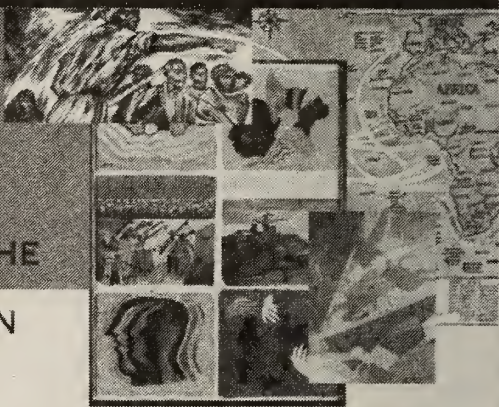
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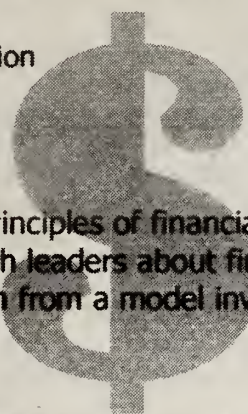
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About the Author:

Dr. Serenus T. Churn Sr., received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University, Madison, N.J., in 1979, his Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care from the Foundation for Religion and Mental Health, Grasslands Hospital, Westchester County, N.Y., in 1970, his Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in Washington, D.C., in 1969, his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Howard University, School of Religion in 1965 and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Morgan State College, Baltimore, Md., in 1962.

He was born in Camden, N.J., to the late Dr. Charles H. Churn Sr., and Violet M. Churn and was licensed to preach at the age of 15. He is married to the former Shirley Brown of Washington, D.C., and

has two sons. Dr. Churn is currently the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Member of Novant Health Board of Trustees, Mount Zion Site Director and Adjunct Instructor, Shaw University Divinity School and Drew University Theology School. He is the Radio Host of God's Trombone WPOL. He has preached across the United States, Great Britain and India.

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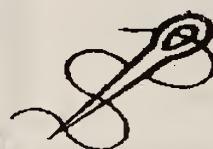
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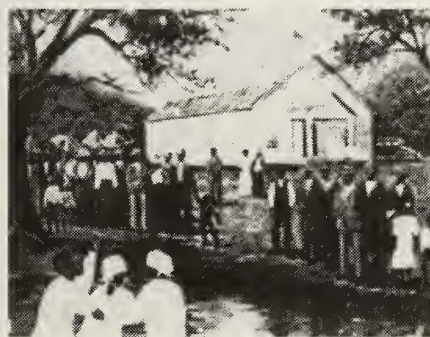
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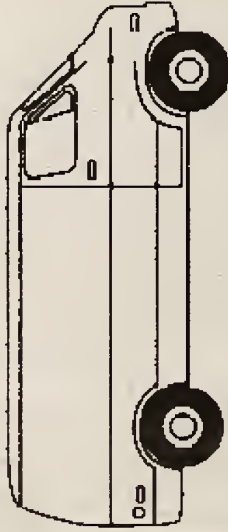
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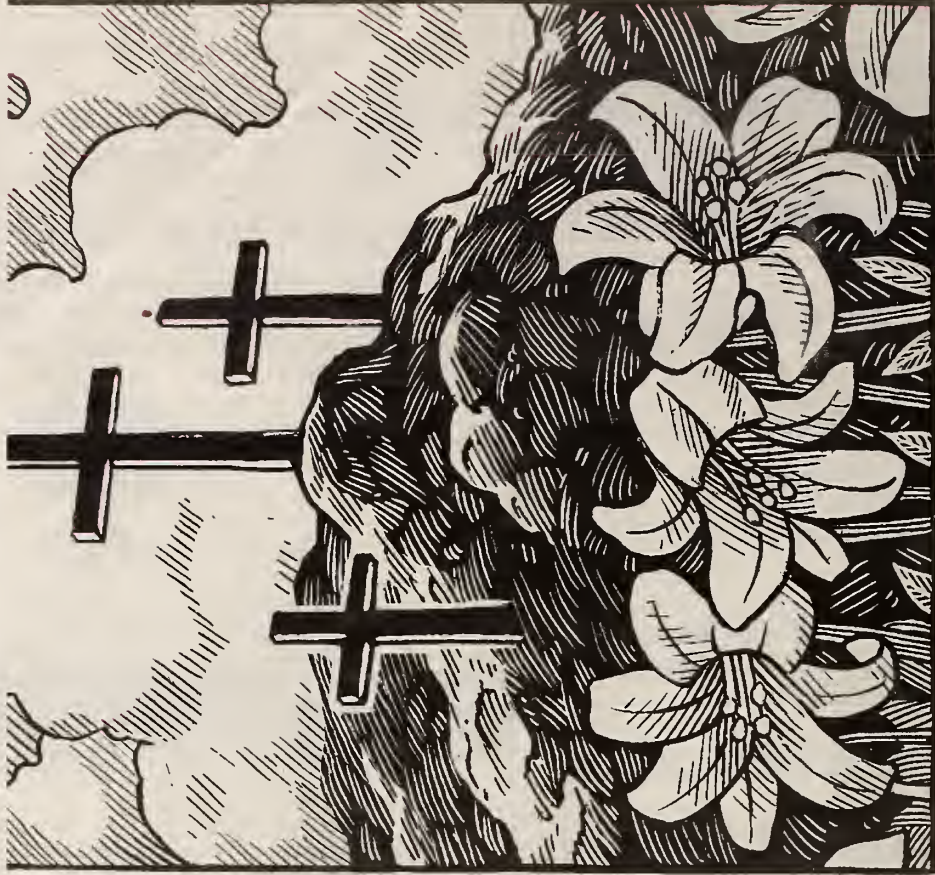
Baptist Informer

Vol. 125, No. 3

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

March 2002

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Baptist Informer

Vol. 125, No. 4

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

April 2002

All Roads Lead To Winston-Salem, NC For Our Historic 135th Year Mid-Year Session



Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Ed. D

**By Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer**

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! We are excited about our historic 135th Year Session to be held May 8-9, 2002 at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1075 Shalimar Drive, Winston-Salem, NC, Dr. John Mendez, Pastor.

Joint Sessions with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina will highlight our MidYear Session on May 8th. Over the years we have joined with the North Carolina Baptist in Fellowship and Ministry Projects. This will be the first meeting of our two groups during this Millennium. We are calling on all Baptist Churches in North Carolina to join in Evangelism &

prayer. We ask that each church disperse special evangelistic tracts that will be provided by our conventions. We want to reach SOUL for CHRIST! Also we want each Church, following the Mid-Year Session to receive an offering or to give building materials so that we can build or repair homes for deserving families in Eastern North Carolina.

The Laymen of the two Conventions will build these homes during, 2002, our 135th Year. Our conventions have worked together since 1867. We both are New Testament Denominations; we both seek to save the lost for Jesus Christ; we both have compassion for the least among us. Both our Boards have endorsed this project. Our Session in Winston-Salem will renew our commitment to work together for Kingdom Building and Soul Salvation. Join us we have an outstanding program planned.

Among the special guests for the May 8, Joint Session are: Dr. Gardner C. Taylor, New York City; Dr. Don Bouldin, Cary, NC; Dr. H. Wesley Wiley, Washington, DC; Dr. Jerry Pereira, President, NCBSC; Dr. James H. Royston, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, NCBSC and members of the NCBSC and its Board.

We are calling all our churches to join us in a Pre-Election Workshop for our GBSC elections in 2002. Our Usher, Laymen and Congress Auxiliaries will be electing new officers July 15-20, 2002 in Raleigh, NC at the Martin Street Baptist Church. The Parent Body will have its election during the Annual Session, October 28-31, 2002 in Fayetteville, NC. During the MidYear Session we will explain the election

procedures and how many messengers each church can have. Also any questions that you might have about the elections will be answered.

The Session will feature a Joint Walk For Health; Our Annual Vacation Bible School Workshop; and GBSC Reports, Thursday Morning, May 9, 2002. We will close with the Presidents Hour. Below is a draft copy of the program, please plan to join us. We are asking that churches make special stewardship contributions for the work.

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*Mid-Year
Session Program
on Page 2.*

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From the Desk of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer *Rev. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Ed.D.*

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135th MID-YEAR SESSION

Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President, Presiding

8:30 AM REGISTRATION Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC
9:00 AM Devotion Rowan Association
9:15 AM 135TH MID-YEAR SESSION CALL TO ORDER Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr.,
President
9:25 AM Welcome Dr. John Mendez, Host Pastor

9:30AM - PRE-ELECTION WORKSHOP - THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION 2002 ELECTIONS: AUXILIARIES (July 15-20, 2002) AND PARENT
BODY (October 28-31, 2002). This workshop will explain in detail the election process
for church messengers. Pastors or their designees are encouraged to be present.

11:30 AM GBSC Vice Presidents Reports:

Rev. Nilous Avery II, 4th Vice President
Rev. N. T. Davis, 3rd Vice President
Dr. Howard Parker, 2nd Vice President
Dr. John H. Grant, 1st Vice President
Dr. Charles T. Bullock, Vice President at Large

12:00 Noon Opening Sermon..... Dr. Dumas A. Harshaw, Jr.

12:30 PM Benediction Pastor Harshaw

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 8, 2002

JOINT SESSION NCBSC & GBSC, INC.

Theme: "WORKING TOGETHER TO ADVANCE THE KINGDOM."

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC

135th ANNUAL SESSION

Dr. John Grant, First Vice President, Presiding

2:30 PM Devotion High Point Association

2:45 PM Greetings:

Dr. Jerry Pereira, President NC Baptist State Convention
Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President GBSC

3:00 PM Theme Address: Dr. H. Westley Wiley, Washington, DC

3:45 PM Evangelism Witness Update:(Rev. James Richardson) & GBSC (Dr. H. C. Miller)

Special Music

4:00 PM Theme Sermon Dr. Don Bouldin, Cary, NC

Benediction Dr. Bouldin

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 8, 2002

JOINT SESSION NCBSC & GBSC, INC.

Theme: "WORKING TOGETHER TO ADVANCE THE KINGDOM."

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC

135th ANNUAL SESSION Dr. Howard Parker, Second Vice President, Presiding

7:30 PM - Devotion Guilford Association

7:45 PM Greetings: Dr. James H. Royston NC Baptist State Convention

Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr. GBSC

Project Update - Survivor Homes for Eastern North Carolina

Special Music

Stewardship Offering

Introduction of Special Guest President John D. Fuller, Sr.

8:30 PM - Joint Session Sermon Dr. Gardner C. Taylor, Brooklyn, New York

Benediction Dr. Taylor

Evangelism Worship

Dr. H. C. Miller, Presiding

9:30 PM EVANGELISM SERVICE

Praise & Worship Service.....

Sermon Reverend Dr. William Height, Durham, NC

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 9, 2002

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC

135th ANNUAL SESSION

Reverend N. T. Davis, Third Vice President, Presiding

7:00-8:00 AM JOIN US WALK FOR HEALTH and FITNESS

8:30 AM REGISTRATION Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC

9:00 AM Devotion Rowan Association

9:15 AM Vacation Bible School Workshop

9:45 AM Auxiliary Updates:

W BH&FMC Mrs. Julius McDonald, President

Congress..... Dr. Jasper Reed, President

Ushers Mr. Charles Fletcher

Laymen's League..... Mr. Jarvis Morgan

Minister's Council Dr. Leonozo Lynch

10:15 AM - Business Session & Reports

General Board Dr. Charles T. Bullock

Executive Secretary-Treasurer WBH&FMC Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.

Reports

Baptist Informer Ms. Phyllis Coley

Adoption and Foster Care Dr. Dorothy Paige

Health & Human Services Dr. Anita Holmes

J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Rev. Theodore Breeden

OISM Chaplain Michael R. Smith, Sr.

General Baptist Foundation Mr. Dexter Perry

GBSC Housing and Disaster Relief Dr. Thurman B. Everett

135th STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE & Stewardship Offering

PRESIDENT'S HOUR - 12 Noon

Introduction of Ecumenical Guest..... Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr.

Special Music

ECUMENICAL ADDRESS Bishop

Adjournment President Fuller

SPECIAL THANK-YOU TO HOST CHURCH, PASTOR, AREA CHURCHES
& ASSOCIATIONS

GBSC Is Available To Work With Churches

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Greetings! The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina is available to work with your church during the time you do not have a Pastor. We will work with the Deacons and other officers to provide guidance as you search for a new pastor to lead your church.

Some of the things we offer:

- We have ordained Baptist ministers available to assist the Deacons in carrying out the Church Ordinances: Lord Supper and Baptism.
- We have ordained clergy who can serve as an "Interim Minister" in your church.
- Some suggested workshops:
 - ✓ How To Select An Interim Pastor?
 - ✓ How To Call A Pastor?
 - ✓ How Much Should We Pay Our Pastor?
 - ✓ Church Administration
 - ✓ How To Plan A Church Budget?
 - ✓ Effective Bible Study
 - ✓ Evangelism Classes
 - ✓ Special Training For Deacons/Trustees
 - ✓ Christian Education Planning
 - ✓ Church Development
 - ✓ Please call if you are interested in any of these services!

1-800-639-GBSC (4272)

The Baptist Informer

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

Voice of 500,000 Baptists

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THEME: " By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor
of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

The Spirit of "Absolute Arrogance"

Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

by Reverend Dennis Leach B.S. M. Div.,

The book of Proverbs; is said to be a collective gathering of the wisdom sayings of King Solomon; historically one of Israel's greatest political leaders. In it he gives a plethora of practical ethical moral instructions aimed at a broad target audience, from political rulers, to businesspersons, to the common individual. This kingly political figure is best known for his uncanny wisdom, which according to scripture has its origin with God, and can be found in the pericope passage of (1 Kings 3:3-15). Here we have in this dream recollection; the leading political figure of his nation engaged in a discussion, related to what he apparently sees as a theologically social task, leading, and judging God's people. What follows this "dream theophany" is a divine importation of wisdom from God, and a part of that is what Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon is all about. No matter how you wish to look at Proverbs, it was intended to be ethical instructions that describe ways in which one should make choices and decisions and take action. As Baptist, we adhere to many doctrines one of which is the "The Authority of the Scriptures", and we hold high the "Great Commission", so to some extent perhaps this marriage between this once political giant, King Solomon, and his many theocentric social paradigms found in Proverbs should be celebrated. Throughout the book of Proverbs, Solomon undeniably links together the theological concept of "God centeredness", and "social justice. And, he ultimately exclaims that: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Proverbs 1:7).

The "Separation of Church and State" doctrine espoused by America and some other democratic nations was adopted because of the many historical abuses perpetrated by governments that had essentially become church states, or to put it another way; states that were controlled by the church, or the church that was controlled by the state. This all came about because either the priests were seeking the approval and support of the monarch, or the monarch was seeking the support and approval of the priest. Axed, to further complicate this already unstable marriage or union is the undeniably unpredictable church's "modus operandi", its method of operation or its foundation. For you see the church's foundation is a spiritual one, and it focuses on the "rush", "pneuma", or the spirit realm in terms of its vision and practices. Because, of the church's focus, and emphasis on spirituality and the mysteries that surround its functional theological foundation it has often been a fertile breeding ground for the religiously absurd, which has often pro-

duced horrendous social results for the common people. From fixes, imprisonment, and even death being levied, against those who were seen or labeled as heretics, reverent, or unfaithful in religious attendance. This all took place under the ironfisted sway of the European church, which exercised these measures on its citizenry. The rise of church states, or state churches helped to facilitate a dark and sorrowful period in the history of the Christian church, and ultimately led to the Protestant Reformation. If you looked at the historical actions and attitudes of the church, or political leaders of that day, you could detect and surmise that they were operating under the spirit of "absolute arrogance."

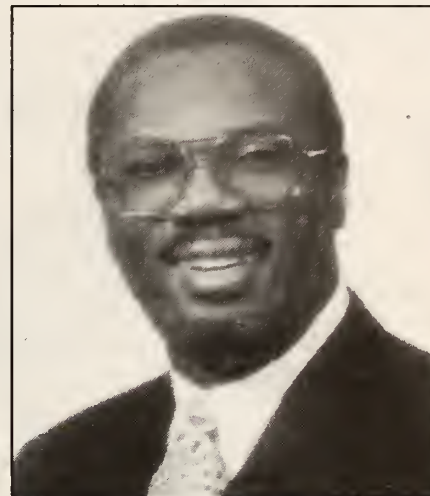
That spirit has reappeared, and today we are also living in threatening times, and faceless nameless terrorist do not represent the greatest of those threats. For those in the church who are in tune with the word of the Lord there ought to be a spirit of uneasiness in light of the posture, and position that this nation, and its political leaders have taken. They have summoned us to silence in the name of patriotism and have asked us to surrender our Christian will as they execute what they deem justice. Silence, has always been the way of maintaining the status quo, be it political, economic, or social. And, to make matters worse leading the way is President Bush, who says he is a Christian. In this country, citizens have been asked to keep silent especially when it comes to the President. The Attorney General, John Ashcroft said: "it is tantamount to treason to criticize a sitting President when the nation is at war." Ira retrospect his words hint at "Hooverism". The late J. Edgar Hoover called any, and everyone a communist to include the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who spoke out against governmental policies, and practices that historically marginalized Black citizens. The white secular and religious media has given the President a rubber stamp of approval, and takes every opportunity to present him as America's best and brightest hope for the future. If you listen to the collective voices of those in the Bush cabinet you can see that he has surrounded himself with admirers, which only helps to fan the fire of his arrogance. That works when your motives and focus are self-centered and self-serving. His loyalty is to his party, and his perceived constituents, not God, or the church. The church, and its God are merely political pawns courted when the mood serves his interest. The worst thing for a world in chaos is a self-serving arrogant person in power. The eleventh day of September, although tragic, appears to have blurred the lines between justice and righteousness, and they have taken a bade seat to politically motivated retribution and punishment. The Apostle Paul in his letter to the church at Rome talks about God turning people over to their own ill will, which leads to destruction (Romans 1:28).

We have been fed a constant media barrage of militaristic political propaganda without regard for the total value of human life. Who is this God who sends his Son to die for the sins of the whole world? And how does God measure the weight, and worth of human souls? Is a Palestinian soul of equal worth to a Jewish soul with God? And is an Afghani soldier's soul of equal worth to an American soldier's soul with God?

The image of a servant, whether it is a Christian, or a political one, has gone through many social metamorphoses. What does it mean to serve in America, and what does it mean to serve in the church? Has serving in America taken the way of, least "eternal" responsibility, accountability, and resistance for those who serve? That cannot be so for Christian leaders. "For to whom much is given, much is required" (Luke 12:48). In fact, when you really look at it, those who hold political offices in this country end up a lot better off than the people they supposedly seek to serve. I must admit Church and political leaders sometimes follow a similar vein, what is done is supposedly in the best interest of the people. But, I do not believe George Bush does not have the kind of moral courage, fortitude, or Christian wherewithal to move the country in the direction it really needs to go. And, that direction is toward social and economic healing. Arrogance makes him too busy with his public relation team; working on what he believes to be important, which is his presidential legacy.

The only drum that Mr. Bush has beaten since 911 has been the war drum. At some point one has to ask, has America become so aberrant about retribution in the wake of 911 that nothing else matters? And, then where is the church, and what position should it take? The Methodist Council of Churches in its last meeting condemned war for any reason. The Association of Medical Doctors condemned the conflict in Afghanistan. Mr. Bush like Solomon needs a counter-balance to keep him from tipping to far in one direction, God. His claim is that he is a nonpartisan President, but when you look at his legislative posture and agenda he overwhelmingly favors big industry, and the ultra rich. Lewis Lapham writing in the Harpers Magazine is correct, "911 has proven to be a financial boon for the defense industry, and George Bush's wealthy friends. Whether he is a Christian I know not, but above all he is a politician. He makes the rich richer. For me, in spite of his public relations team, President Bush is not what he appears to be in the media. Instead of a brave fearless leader, I see a man because of arrogance too afraid to step out of line with what he believes is his own destiny.

I am concerned, about the direction this country, and ultimately the church is going in. We are allegedly going towards peace, traveling down the corridors of war. And,



Dr. John D. Fuller,

leading the way there is a damning "spirit of arrogance" that seems to have taking a strangle hold on the identity, mind and collective personality of some of this nation's leaders. It is not a spirit that lends itself to God accountability, for it asserts that anything that is to be accounted must be measured by itself. It is prevalent and pervasive throughout Western ideology and culture, for that reason it knows no boundaries. To put it in layman terms, it's in every arena of our society. It expresses itself undeniably and unashamedly in America's worldview. Which, like a schoolyard bully bogards and forces a one sided agenda that leaves others socially, economically, culturally, and spiritually bruised. It causes those who adhere to its principles to deny the reality of others for the sake of its own. It is everywhere. In politics, the media, and sad to say even in the church. This spirit causes this nation to close its ears, eyes, and mouth to everything that is not like it. It causes the wicked, and sinners alike to justify all their wicked deeds.

In conclusion, when the clergy enter into this sociological political foray one might at a minimum expect that their position, or propositions would be "theocentric", and biblically based. On the other hand politicians assert when it comes down: to honoring the demands of justice, and righteousness they say that's in the past so we do not have to honor it. Left behind is an unpaid moral debt! When they want to win our sentiment, they just parade before us the high sounding words of sonar ethical document to which they have never been obliged to uphold or apply to all people. A society can claim to have, or hold all the values it feels it needs to express itself in terms of worth and credibility, but if those values remain a part of a historical document and do not express themselves in practical acts of justice among its people, it should be classified as extinct. And, perhaps like prehistoric dinosaurs the

Christianity that Jesus espoused for all people for all times in this country is becoming extinct. But, when God's children become afraid he has away of showing us his hand, to calm our doubts, and sooth our fears. When I was afraid that a particular political

continued on page 24

Women's Convention News

Reminders

- J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly**
The Woman's Convention has been assured that the Assembly will be open for our Spring and Summer activities. Therefore, regular activities are to occur at the usual times under the auspices of the Holy Spirit.
- Scholarship Program**
Young Adult or youth applying for scholarships should apply on or before May 31, 2002, (See brochure).
- The State-Wide Leaders' Workshop** will convene for all departments at the Raleigh Civic Center on Saturday, April 6, 2002. The session begins at 9:00 a.m. However, registration begins at 8:00 a.m. for those who have not pre-registered. Registration is \$6.00 and pre-registration is \$5.00. Please secure a pre-registration form from the office and return it with the funds by March 15, 2002. You may duplicate forms.
- The 22nd Ministers Wives/Widows' Retreat** is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2002, at the Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill. All ministers' wives/widows are invited. The advance fee for those who plan to come on Saturday is \$18.00. For those who come on Friday and spend the night, the advance fee is \$25.00. For those who come on Friday and spend the night, the on-site fee is \$26.00 (People who spend the night need to bring bed linens and toiletries.) Please pick-up a form at the April Workshop or send to the office for one and return it April 19, 2002. On-site donation is \$20.00 for Saturday only. There will be a class for ministers who accompany their wives. They (husbands) are asked to pay the same fees as given for the wives.
- The Leadership Training Conference** will convene the week of June 3-7, 2002 at the Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill. The fee is \$125.00 per person. Please send to the office for forms and return by May 12, 2002.
- The Youth Bible Camp** will be held June 9-14, 2002 (Week 1); June 16-21, 2002 (Week 2); June 23-28, 2002 (Week 3). The fee for the regular camper is \$160.00 and for the day camper is \$100.00. Campers are received on a first-come basis. The fee or a non-refundable deposit of \$10.00 must be sent along with the completed registration form, health form, and parental or guardian statement form. Please contact the office for forms.
- Self-Denial Envelopes** can be secured from the office. Funds should be sent to the office prior to this year's Annual Session (See notice included.).
- The 118th Annual Session Pre-Convention Banquet Tickets** may be secured from the office now. Tickets in advance are \$30.00 and at the door, \$31.00. Please send your ticket request along with funds to the office.
- Housing Reservation Forms** for the 118th Annual Session are now available from the office. Please complete the form and send it directly to the host hotel, Adam's Mark, Winston-Salem. The Annual Session Assembly will meet July 29-August 1, 2002 at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem.
- The Young Adult Retreat** will meet at St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte, Dr. Gregory Moss, pastor, May 31-June 1, 2002. Please secure a form from the office and return by the given date.
- Our budget for fiscal year 2001-2002 is \$801,357.00 in terms of**
\$33,500.00 - Shaw Divinity School; \$49,500.00 - Shaw University;
\$80,200.00 - Foreign Missions; \$36,500.00 - Central Children's Home;
\$561,157.00 - State Missions; \$40,500.00 - Baptist Assembly. Please send contributions for the Woman's Convention made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention. Please mail contributions and correspondence to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh NC 27602.

Spring Time, Seed Time

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

"How Great Thou Art"

O Lord my God, when I in awe-some wonder
Con-sid-er all the worlds Thy hands
have made, I see the stars, I hear the roll-
ing thun-der, Thy pow'r thru-out the un-
verse dis-played!

When thru the woods and for-est glades I
wan-der And hear the birds sing sweet-ly in
the trees, When I look down from loft-y
moun-tain gran-deur And hear the brook
and feel the gen-tle breeze,

And when I think that God, His Son not
spar-ing Sent Him to die, I scarce can take
it in- That on the cross, my bur-den glad-ly
bear-ing, He bled and died to take a-way
my sin!

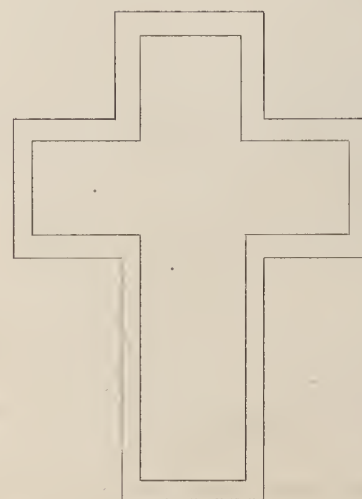
When Christ shall come with shout of ac-
cla-ma-tion And take me home, what joy
shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in
hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion And there pro-claim,
my God, how great Thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to
Thee; How great Thou art, how great Thou
art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God,
to Thee; How great Thou art, how great
Thou art!

-Stuart K. Hine

Last month we celebrated Easter, a time to reflect on the Resurrection of Jesus who was sent by His Father God "that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." After the rising of the Son, are the disciples empowered by the Holy Spirit to go forth to sow the Seed and the Word of God, Jesus. They preach and teach about the Word of God, Jesus who continues to harvest men and women whose hearts are made to be acceptable soil. Some people spring up to be apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, exhorters, givers, rulers, doers of mercy, helpers, speakers with wisdom, speakers with knowledge, and others as listed in the Scriptures. How Great God Is!

Then as a Christian organization should we be reminded that it is time for us to fulfill our mission to help churches sow the Word that springs forth fruit, persons who believe in Christ and who receive their assignment as it pleases Him. Therefore, let us remember to support and participate in the listed events which follow, as well as those unlisted.



Julius McDonald
President
Woman's Baptist Home
& Foreign Missionary Convention
of North Carolina

Publisher

To God Be the Glory!

I am the new Publisher of the Baptist Informer and you are holding in your hands the first issue of the Informer that I published. And with the grace of God, I pray that I will be able to make the Baptist Informer all that He would have it to be.

Let me tell you how God has been working in my life and prepared me for what is now my work with the Baptist Informer. I have worked in radio news and promotions wrote for local newspapers and worked in marketing. In 1997, the owners of the Winston Salem Chronicle and the Charlotte Post formed a company, Consolidated Media Group for the purpose of starting an African American newspaper in the Raleigh-Durham area. They contracted me to start that newspaper, The Triangle Tribune.

Combined they had over 30 years experience and with my knowledge and tenacity, the project worked. But I know I gained more from that experience than they did. Although I know there is always more to learn, from this experience I

God stated working in my life, showing and guiding me in a different direction

learned the newspaper business well enough to benefit others with my knowledge.

I was guided by God to start an event planning company, Another Coley Event, in May 2000 while still with the Triangle Tribune. My first contract was with IBM to handle the ground transportation for 800 IBM associates from around the world during a four-day conference held in Research Triangle Park. My next project was the Aggie Eagle Football Classic 2001. Both of these projects afforded me the opportunity to plan events for large groups. I eventually left the Triangle Tribune in July 2001.

Since that time I have worked on several community oriented projects. In January of this year I handled the press and publicity for Rev. Al Sharpton when he visited Raleigh-Durham. I met Dr. Archie Logan and Ms. Carol Smith at a luncheon for Rev. Sharpton at St. Augustine's College. We talked about my background and about me helping with the Baptist Informer. I told them that I was starting my own magazine and could only offer them some consultation.

Well, God started working in my life, showing and guiding me in a different direction. I met with Dr. Logan and finally

made the commitment to publish the Baptist Informer. God made me see that all the places and work he had made a way for me to experience was preparing me to publish the Baptist Informer and to assist the General Baptist State Convention in the planning of its events.

I am still publishing the magazine, ACE Magazine of the Triangle, and the first issue will be published in May. God has shown me that there is a need reach the secular world so that they may be informed and uplifted. It will be distributed in Food Lions and Lowe's Food Stores in Wake, Durham, Orange, Franklin, Johnston, Granville and Alamance counties, as well as, churches in Wake, Durham and Orange counties.

I NEED TO ASK FOR YOUR HELP

I would like to first ask for your prayers that I would do a job that will be pleasing in God's sight. Second, I need you to help me to make the Baptist Informer the newspaper that you will be proud of. There are some things that I really need you to do to help me make sure the process runs smoothly and the news get out in a timely and professional manner.

YOUR CAN HELP ME BY:

- Praying for me, my family and the GBSC and giving me feedback about the Baptist Informer. My email address is acoleyevent@msn.com and my phone number is (919) 956-7673.

- Getting your articles to GBSC by the 10th of each month before the article is to run. This is because we need the articles, to know the length, content etc. to be able to lay the paper out. Information that reaches us after that date causes us to have to start the process over. And that causes the GBSC money because the layout people are paid by the hour. So in an effort to keep costs manageable, WE CAN NO LONGER ACCEPT ARTICLES AFTER THE TENTH OF THE MONTH.

- E-mailing or sending your articles on disk. When you send your article in typed or handwritten, it has to be redone by the layout person, again adding to the cost. If you will contact Ms. Carol Smith, she can help you to get your article into the format that we need it in. ARTICLES SHOULD BE EMAILED TO cjsgbse@aol.com or put on disk and delivered to GBSC.

- Paying your subscription renewal fees. Please read the letter from Dr. Logan that is inserted in the paper. Paying your fees promptly will help us not have to stop you from receiving



Phyllis Coley

ing the Baptist Informer and knowing what's happening around the state.

- Paying for your advertisements that have been running. Bills will be going out soon and we need you to pay as soon

I would like to first ask for your prayers that I would do a job that will be pleasing in God's sight. Second, I need you to help me make the Baptist Informer the newspaper that you will be proud of.

as you receive it since your ad has already run in the paper.

- Sending in color pictures from events or activities at your church that other Baptist should know about. You must identify the people in the picture and tell me about the event or activity. The pictures cannot be returned unless you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope large enough for the picture.

NEW ADVERTISING RATES Effective April 1, 2002

Nonprofit or Church ad rates

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	2 Months
FULL PAGE	\$350.00	\$875.00	\$1650.00	\$3000.00
HALF PAGE	\$200.00	\$525.00	\$ 900.00	\$1500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$125.00	\$300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

For profit company ad rates

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$500.00	\$1275.00	\$2250.00	\$3900.00
HALF PAGE	\$325.00	\$ 825.00	\$1350.00	\$2100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$1500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

Usher's News

"Bed-Toting, -Roof-Climbing Ushers:

Being Committed to the Task and Creative in the Task"

A Presentation to the North Carolina Baptist Ushers Auxiliary of the General Baptist State Convention

Saturday, February 23, 2002

Presented by The Reverend Haywood T. Gray
Pastor, Temple Memorial Baptist Church, High Point

Luke 5:17:

And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was present to heal them:

5:18:

And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him.

5:19:

And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus.

5:20:

And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.

You're Working While He's Working

"... as He was teaching teaching..."

1. Ushers Serve in the Context of Worship

- The Bible indicates that Church was going on in this story.
- Ushers need to be serious about what they do because what they do is a part of worship.
- What ushers do in the context of worship, therefore, becomes holy - it is an offering to God.
- Ushers should do nothing to detract from the spirit of worship or that will prevent others from experiencing worship.

It Takes All Kinds to Make a Congregation

"... which were come out of every town ..."

2. Ushers Need to Recognize That They Will Have to Serve Different People

- The crowd that gathered around Jesus in the text was diverse.
- All kinds of people come to Church.
- Different people have different needs and present different challenges..

Volunteers in the Lord's Army

"... And, behold, men ..."

3. Ushers Are Volunteers; They Deserve Appreciation

- The men who brought the sick man had to sacrifice (time, energy, effort) to bring the man to the Lord.
- Ushers make significant sacrifices to serve.
- Ushers (sadly) enough are greatly unappreciated in our Churches.
- Pastors should do more to show appreciation; Church leaders should do more to show gratitude; Church members should do more to say thank you.

4. Ushers Are Volunteers; Quit Complaining

- The men who brought the sick man had no right to grumble about how heavy the man was; they volunteered for the job. The man did not ask them.
- Ushers are not forced into service, but they volunteer for service.
- Prospective ushers should know what they are getting into before they join. Not every one is cut out to be an usher.

You're Part of a Team

"... brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy

5. Ushers Need to be Going the Same Way

- The sick man was brought. The bringers of the man had to be going the same way.
- Ushers should strive for consistency among all usher groups and among all ushers in the group. Everyone needs to be going the same way..
- Ushers should do nothing to detract from the spirit of worship or that will prevent others from experiencing worship.

6. Every Usher Needs to Carry His Own Corner

- It was a team effort to carry the man, but every man had a corner and every man was expected to carry his corner.
- Ushers need to carry out the responsibility of the assignment given.
- Failure to do so means that some important work will be left undone.

7. It's the People, Not You

- The men set out with a single purpose in mind: to get the sick man to Someone who could help him. Their focus never changed from the sick man.
- Ushers need to remember that their purpose is to serve others.
- Not to seek glory or honor or recognition, but to serve others.
- Not to impress, repress, or depress, but to serve others.
- Not to see or to be seen, but to serve others.

It's A Real Job

"... sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him ..."

8. The job of an Usher is Hard Work

- These men had to labor to accomplish their goal.
- Ushers have to work (provide the service) and have to work at it (practice the service) and have to work on it (prepare for the service).
- There are no "holidays," "dress down days," or "laid back days."

Expect the Unexpected, Anticipate the Unanticipated

"... And when they could not find by what way..."

9. Things Don't Always Go According to Plan

- The men did not expect to be met by such a great crowd
- Ushers need to be able to adapt to the situations that confront them.
- Brainstorming and planning will help ushers to do this.

Church Folk Will Be Church Folk

"... because of the multitude ..."

10. The Crowd Will Not Always Cooperate

- Notice that the crowd did not make a way for them to get the man in the house where Jesus was.
- Ushers need not be surprised that people will not always cooperate.
- Sometimes people do not know. Sometimes people are not aware.
- Sometimes people just don't care.
- Ushers should let bitter people make them bitter; bitter people should make ushers better.

You Have To Be Smarter Than the Crowd

"... they went upon the housetop..."

11. Develop a Strategy to Get the Job Done

- The men did not give up when Plan A failed; they came up with Plan B.
- Ushers should develop strategies to effectively handle the crowd in whatever situation. Be smarter than the people you serve.
- Know what will work and what will not work beforehand.

The Service Is Over: Your Feet Hurt, Your Head Aches, Your Uniform Needs to be Put In the Cleaners! And Nobody Even Notices That You Were There

"... And when He saw their faith

12. Congratulations! Job Well Done

- Ushers have done a good job when they were not the center of attraction.
- Ushers have done a good job when they have served the needs of the crowd.
- Ushers have done a good job when it goes so smoothly they the ushers seem lost in the crowd.
- But Somebody was paying attention and Somebody will remember.

Laymen's League News



Romas L. Hales
Laymen's League Coordinator

Laymen's League By Romas L. Hales

The State Laymen's League Quarterly Study Commission Meeting was held on Saturday, March 9, 2002 at the First Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina, where Dr. Dumas A. Harshaw, Jr. serves as Pastor. The Executive Committee Meeting was held at 9 a.m. and the regular meeting started at 10:00 a.m. The First Vice president John Gladden called the meeting to order. Following the Devotion by the host Laymen we had the welcome by the host Laymen president Brother Dwight Spencer. Brother Howard Graham, State Laymen past president gave the response to the welcome. Greetings were given by the president Jarvis Morgan and by the Reverend Wright Caldwell of First Baptist Church. We were entertained with music by Deacon Randolph Bazemore of First Baptist Church.

Brother Theodore David, State Laymen Third Vice president conducted the Christian Education session. His topic was from the Scripture Hebrews 12:1-2. Brother David's topic was "Committed Christians Running the Christian Race." He made a good comparison of the Casual runner and the Committed runner to the Casual Christian and the Committed Christian. We have Casual runners that are out of shape just like we have Casual Christians that are spiritually out of shape. He did a good job explaining how we should be Committed Christians and not just Casual Christians. He discussed the ground rules and what it takes to be a Committed Christian. By then David encouraged the Laymen to "keep your eyes to the prize and that is Jesus."

The Study Commission Workshop was conducted by the Chairmen, Brother Dallas Foster. The Workshop topic was "The Just Shall Live by Faith." Brother Foster gave a brief perspective on the faith of the Afro-American Men and how their faith was strengthened through suffering. No other Minority group in American history has

suffered more from the brutalities on slavery, oppression, prejudice, discrimination, segregation, and injustice than the Afro-American Males. Their suffering strengthened their faith. Consequently, for them, more suffering led to more faith. In the midst of their darkest hours of despair and suffering, they believed that the Lord would make a way somehow. Brother Foster gave a challenge for the Laymen. Laymen cannot possibly have a greater task, a more urgent mission, or a more critical work than that of helping young Afro-American men to find themselves and to rediscover and to reclaim spiritual heritage and the moral legacy of our fathers. This legacy is trusting in God and believing that "the just shall line by faith." "The just shall live by faith" is a message that strengthened, and sustained Afro-American men in the past, and it can rescue, empower, and save them now and in the future, in time and in eternity. Brother Foster did a good job with a meaningful topic.

We had a business session following the workshop conducted by president Jarvis Morgan. There were reporters from the Executive Committee, the Youth, Finance and the Field Worker. The Youth topic for their workshop was on prayer. Brother Gregory Gabriel, Fausett Vice president is the director of the Youth Department. The session was well attended with over two hundred men and boys in attendance. It was a spiritual uplifting session.

Thanks to Dr. Harshaw, the Laymen, and member of First Baptist Church for hosting the meeting. Thanks for a wonderful meal and the warm welcome. A special thanks to the First Baptist Church health Ministry. Mrs. Carlene Byrd, Chairperson for sponsoring the Health Fair.

Laymen Mid-Annual Session

Pastors, Laymen and members of the Convention, we are looking forward to seeing you act the Laymen Mid-Annual Banquet and one day session. The banquet will be held on Friday, April 12, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mountain and Catawba Fellowship Center, 3370 Reid Circle, Sherrill's Ford, North Carolina. The Banquet tickets are twenty dollars (\$20.00). Children and under ten (\$10.00) dollars.

Please make plans to attend the One Day Session on Saturday, April 13, 2002 at the Mountain and Catawba Fellowship center in Sherrill's Ford, NC. The New Prospect Baptist Church where Reverend J. Saner serves as pastor in the host church. Registration and the Executive Committee Meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. and the regular session start at 9:30 a.m. Registration for the Mid-Annual Session is \$10.00 per person. Please bring your Laymen, your youth and church assessment and help us have a successful session.

General Baptist State Convention Laymen's League presents Mini Skills Conference 2002

May 18, 10:00 am
J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly,
Laurel Hill NC

The Mini Skills Conference is a youth talent exhibition open to all elementary through High School students. The purpose is to encourage our youth to develop and demonstrate their talents and abilities in various fields of academic interest.

Contestants may participate in one or both major categories.

- I. **Performing Arts:** which include dramatics, music, oratory, etc
- II. **Science & Arts Displays:** which include Architecture, Computer Science, Drawing, Natural Science, Painting, Sculpture, Industrial Arts, etc.

Judging Criteria:

All judging will be done in three grade categories: elementary, middle, and high school. Entries may be individuals or groups. Groups will be categorized by the grade of the oldest participant. All entries must display positive values. Performing Arts entries will be judged on creativity, spirituality, and quality of performance. Displays will be judged on appearance, creativity, knowledge and understanding.

Awards & Prizes

Awards will be given in the Performing Arts Category for:

Best Musical content
Best Dramatic content
Best Oratorical content
Best Overall performance

Awards will be given in the Science, & Arts Display Category for:

Best Scientific content
Best Artistic content
Best technological content
Best Overall Display

Best Overall Performance and Best Overall Display will receive monetary awards. Other awards will be Trophies ribbons and certificates.

For more information contact Michael Kendall:

919-872-6572
mkendall@intrex.net



Members of Laymen's League rehab home in Princeville

AND THE PAIGES GO ON



Earl Horton

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry News

By Earl Horton

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry Director of Public Relations

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is moving full steam ahead with recruiting churches to identify African-American singles and couples to become adoption and foster care parents for children in the state child welfare system.

The late Dr. Joseph Paige, our chairman and visionary of the adoption and foster care ministry informed the GBSC and faith community of the ministry's positive strides and influences.

It is an honor to assume the responsibility of updating our work weekly and monthly. Dr. Paige would have wanted our good news to continue and that is why the new title of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry update will be called "And The Paiges Go On..."

The ministry news will have a new format and an informative formula of reaching out to the community. In the upcoming articles pastors, churches, volunteers, social workers and adoption and foster care parents will be featured in our special paige spotlight. Also the children's picture features will be continued. Informational articles concerning issues relating to adoption and foster care will be featured. The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is dedicated of informing and educating the GBSC and the faith communities about our children in North Carolina and the nation. The GBSC Staff will be contributing articles in support of informing the community that will be featured in the future.

Stay tuned for the upcoming articles from the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry.

Foster Parents Honored for Years of Loving Children

By Earl Horton

Director of Public Relations GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry recognized William and Cerish Lee for their years of being foster parents to 12 children during the March 10th morning Service at First Baptist Church (Holly Springs).

The church celebrated its annual Family Day. During Family Day all of the church families met, worshiped and prayed together. The occasion was absolutely perfect to recognize this loving couple with their foster children in support.

William and Cerish Lee have been foster care parents for over 20 years and still love it every single day. The Lee's have been blessed to carry on the work to provide a stable, nurturing and spiritual home for their children.

Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care

Ministry recognized these guardian angels with a certificate honoring them of devoting 110% of time, energy, love and spiritual guidance. Elaine Rakouskas, Wake County Human Services was in attendance in support of the Lees'. She presented the couple with a bouquet of Roses along with heartfelt thanks to them for being foster care parents to the many children that have come into their home.

Also, Horton recognized the Reverend Otis Byrd, pastor of First Baptist Church (Holly Springs) who is an adoptee, was given a certificate for supporting Mr. and Mrs. Lee and their foster care children.

NBC-17 news was in attendance to interview Horton, the Reverend Otis Byrd and the special presentation for the Lee's. Both were aired on the late night news.



(left photo) Elaine Rakouskas gives a heart felt thanks to Ceresh and William Lee by giving them rose. (top right photo) William Lee, gives his testimony of his love for children. (bottom right photo) Ceresh Lee, giving warm-hearted words to the congregation of the need of Adoption and foster Care.



NIKKI and EDDIE

Introducing Nikki and Eddie Nikki and Eddie are bright young kids with a lot on the ball. Nikki is a sweet girl with a pleasant personality, while Eddie has the quick wit.

A Closer Look at Nikki

Nikki has beautiful, expressive eyes. She is an affectionate young woman who loves to play games and she gets along well with other kids. Nikki also likes to shop and dress up. She has made a great deal of improvement in her grades recently and has maintained her status on the B honor roll at school. Birthday: March 3, 1989

A Closer Look at Eddie

Eddie is a talkative teen with a lot of determination. He likes to ride his bike, roller skate and play sports, particularly football. Eddie especially loves deep-sea fishing. He is very neat and likes to dress

stylishly. Eddie needs to work on his typical-teen habit of sometimes being argumentative. Birthday: June 5, 1987

A Family

Nikki and Eddie are very close and need a family willing to offer them a home and family together. They are still close to their biological mother, so their adoptive family will need to be open to their continued contact with her. They will also need counseling and a slow transition into their new, permanent family. A family that can provide structure, guidelines, consequences and lots of love would be ideal for Nikki and Eddie. (NC #031-622) (NC #031-621) For more information on these children or adoption in general, please call the NC Kids toll free hotline at 1-877-NCKIDS-1 (1-877-625-4371).

More Adoption News on Page 25...



Health & Human Services



Dr. Anita P. Holmes



Dr. Mary D. Jacobs

GBSC FAITH AND HEALTH INITIATIVE UPDATE

By

**Dr. Anita P. Holmes, Executive Director and
Dr. Mary D. Jacobs, Project Coordinator
Faith and Health Initiative**

The Faith and Health Initiative funded by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust is officially underway. The Initiative will provide a primary and secondary prevention program focusing on four associations located in Granville, Franklin, Vance and Warren Counties. The project seeks to significantly change risk behaviors through initiatives to (1) encourage nutritionally sound dietary practices (e.g., reducing salt, sugar, and saturated fat) and (2) increase physical activity and exercise. Lay leaders will be utilized to assist in motivating and mobilizing congregation members.

Four part-time Faith and Health

Facilitators began orientation on February 1, 2002. The participating associations, facilitators and moderators are:

County Line Association: Rev. Mary Crispell, Facilitator; Rev. Terry Taylor, Moderator;

Franklin County Missionary Baptist Association: Ms. Annie Belle Perry, Facilitator; Rev. Timothy Walker, Sr., Moderator;

Middle Baptist Association: Mrs. Sarah P. Lemay, Facilitator; Rev. S.E. Blalock, Moderator; and,

United Shiloh Association: Mrs. Marian Williams Burch, Facilitator; Rev. Lacy L. Joyner, Moderator.

Major responsibilities of the facilitators will be to:

- Recruit church volunteers as Faith and Health Initiative Advocates to provide education and outreach in their church in the areas of nutrition, physical activity and faith and health;
- Establish a Faith and Health Advisory Committee for their assigned association;
- Assist participating churches in establish-

ing Faith and Health Advisory Committees and organizing related events;

- Provide information on utilizing community resources; and,

- Encourage (nutritionally) appropriate food choices and stretch exercise breaks at church events.

Initially three churches per association will participate in piloting the training program for Faith and Health Advocates. The advocates will be asked to commit to 30 hours of training followed by 72 hours of service per year over a two-year period. As the program is developed, other churches in the four associations will be offered the opportunity to participate through an application process.

In addition to association churches targeted in the grant, the Office of Health and Human Services will seek to carry lessons learned to other churches concerned about the health of their congregations and communities. The first opportunity for Convention members to take part in one of the physical activities being proposed will be at the First GBSC Faith and Health "Walk" during the Mid-Year Conference. This activity will include something for everyone regardless of age or ability. If you plan to join us, please remember to bring comfortable clothes and shoes.

Walking... A Step in the Right Direction

Walking is one of the easiest ways to exercise. You can do it almost anywhere and any time. Walking is also inexpensive. All you need is a pair of comfortable shoes.

Walking will:

- Give you more energy
- Make you feel good

- Reduce stress
- Help you to relax
- Help you sleep better
- Tone your muscles
- Help control your appetite
- Increase the number of calories your body uses
- Lower your chance for diabetes
- Lower your chance for stroke
- Lower your blood pressure
- Improve your blood cholesterol levels

Walking for a healthy heart.

Begin slowly. Begin by walking 10 to 15 minutes three or four times the first week. Set yourself a goal and walk a little more each week. You may want to work up to a 30-minute walk 4 days a week. Or maybe you want to walk 40 minutes 3 days each week. Always check with your doctor before starting any exercise program.

Stretch and walk slowly for the first and last 5 minutes. Stretching and walking slowly help your heart to warm up and cool down.

Listen to your body. If you have any health problems, talk to your doctor about walking for a healthy heart. If you get breathless, dizzy or have unusual pains when you are walking, slow down or stop. If the problem does not go away, see your doctor.

Begin your walking program. If you begin and miss a few weeks it's okay. Start again. You are healthier than before you started your walking.

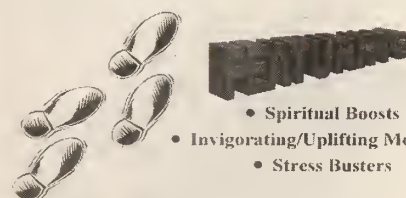
Sources: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health and the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service



Faith and Health Initiative Facilitators. Left to Right: Mrs. Marian Williams Burch, United Shiloh Association; Ms. Annie Belle Perry, Franklin County Association; Rev. Mary Crispell, County Line Association. Center Front: Mrs. Sarah P. Lemay, Middle Baptist Association.

RENEW YOUR MIND, BODY, & SPIRIT

**JOIN US
FOR THE FIRST GBSC FAITH & HEALTH
"WALK"**



Something for Everyone—Chair Exercises, Mental & Spiritual "Sit-ups", Etc.

When: Thursday, May 9th
Where: GBSC Mid-Year Conference/Adam's Mark Hotel, Winston-Salem, NC (Room to be announced)
Time: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION AVAILABLE ON SITE
Special Gifts for the First 50 Persons Registered

WEAR COMFORTABLE CLOTHES AND SHOES

FAITH & FITNESS

Should We Wait on the American Cancer Society to Promote Health?

By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

In the past, I have kept you informed of the "Body & Soul" project, here at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church. As you may recall, "Body & Soul" is a project sponsored by the American Cancer Society that encourages us to eat more fruits and vegetables. The project will be winding up soon, and the closing celebration will take place in May.

This is the first trial of the project that involves many churches from several states including Georgia, Delaware, North Carolina, and Virginia. Body & Soul evolved from two other projects that also involved churches. Since the main goal of the American Cancer Society is to fight cancer (along with other chronic diseases), and research has shown that eating more fruits and vegetables can help with fight, it makes sense that they take on a mission to encourage eating more fruits and vegetables. But what I have wondered is why is the American Cancer Society willing to fund a project that involves people from African Americana churches? The fact that African Americans have a higher than average prevalence of chronic diseases, may have something to do with the decision. But why go to the church? The answer may be that they realize that church folk, Christians have a better chance of success than any other group. Rev. Fuller mentioned that sometimes the "world" has more faith in us than we do. ACS believes that we, African American Christians can succeed in the task of increasing our intake of fruits and vegetables, which in turn will help us to be healthier.

Eating more fruits and vegetables is the overall goal of Body & Soul, but behind the scenes, they are encouraging us to take any steps toward overall health improvement. It is good to receive funding from ACS for the

things that we have done through Body & Soul, but without the funding, these things should still be done.

Many avenues have been planned and used by the churches to accomplish the mission of attempting to improve health. Everything from health walks, health screenings, and activities that serve food dishes that are low in fat and calories. Churches have distributed goodie bags that included raisins and small cans of fruit to show that snacks can be healthy. Demonstrations on juicing to make juice from fruits and vegetables have taken place. Activities have been planned for all up groups, from the youth to the seniors.

It is good that the American Cancer Society is helping churches to encourage better nutrition, but what if this project did not exist? I contend that each church body should be taking steps to encourage health. Some steps toward education and encouragement for health improvement should take place in each church, no matter what it is. I say this because I know that God is concerned about the health and wellness of his people, and he wants to insure that his children receive the needed information and inspiration.

If God has placed this desire within you, go forth and make some plans. Take some steps to help someone else. As it works out with most things, you will help yourself most, as you help others. We do not have to wait on the American Cancer Society to go forth.

Following is a True/False Quiz that we used at one of our Body & Soul functions. Test your nutrition knowledge and look for the answers and explanations in next month's Faith & Fitness article. Continue to Be Blessed.



Nutrition Quiz (Part 1) Fat and Cholesterol

True or False

- 1) Since research has shown testing a diet high in fat is so harmful to one's health, we should strive to eliminate all fat from our diet. _____
- 2) Fat and Cholesterol are basically the same thing. _____
- 3) It is recommended that no more than 30% of our total daily calories come from fat. _____
- 4) Dietary cholesterol and blood cholesterol are the same thing. _____
- 5) Hydrogenation (adding hydrogen) is used to turn liquid fats into solids in order to extend a product's shelf life. This process creates a trans-fat. _____
- 6) The process of hydrogenation (look for "partially hydrogen oil in the ingredients on the food label) will decrease the amount of saturated fat. _____
- 7) When limiting the amount of fat in our diet, it is saturated fat that should be decreased before monounsaturated or polyunsaturated. _____
- 8) Some amounts of dietary cholesterol can be found in 311 foods. _____
- 9) Omega-3 fatty acids, also referred to as "the good for your heart fat" can be found in tuna, mackerel, and salmon. _____
- 10) Eating fat versus eating carbohydrates or protein can be considered more expensive in that a gram of fat supplies 9 calories and a gram of carbohydrate or protein supplies only 4 calories. _____

Nutrition Quiz (Part 2) General Nutrition

True or False

- 1) During digestion, food is broken down into nutrients which are absorbed into our bloodstream and carried to every cell of our body. _____
- 2) There are more than 40 nutrients, which fall into 5 major groups, carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins, and minerals. _____
- 3) The amount of water that we drink is not critical because only a small percentage of our "body weight is water. _____
- 4) A red pepper packs more vitamins and nutrients than a green pepper. _____
- 5) White meat chicken is more nutritious than dark meat chicken. _____
- 6) If you are going to eat chocolate, dark chocolate is more nutritious than milk or white chocolate. _____
- 7) Fish has higher cholesterol than steak. _____
- 8) A typical 12 oz. can of soda contains 10 spoons of sugar. _____
- 9) 50 % of the average American's salt intake comes from the salt shaker. _____
- 10) Daniel and the 3 Hebrews boys managed to remain healthier by having a diet of vegetables and water than those who had the king's diet of meat and wine. _____

Total Score _____

MODERATORS OF MODERATORS



Rev. James W. Smith

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL.

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

Since I have been writing this column, many of you, Pastors and church members, have called me to request a sample copy of by-laws. While I do not object to providing you with a copy, I do want to emphasize

that taking one set of by-laws and adopting them as your own can create serious problems for your church and lead to obvious conflict. It is desirable that you use any materials that the Moderator of Moderators' committee may provide as only a guide.

Now there are some things that should be basically the same. Let's take the "Preamble" for example. Every Missionary Baptist Church should declare and establish their constitution and by-laws to preserve and secure the principles of their faith and to govern the body in an orderly manner. The "Preamble" should have language that will preserve the liberties of each individual church member and the freedom of action of the body to other churches. The autonomy of the Missionary Baptist Church demands language of this nature or something similar. In addition, it helps to put all of our Missionary Baptist Churches on the same page.

Consider the "Purpose" and the "Statement of Basic Beliefs" of the Missionary Baptist Church and one should conclude that this should be basic language for our churches. The purpose of our church should be to give visible form to that faith and fellowship to which God has called His people. We should acknowledge ourselves

to be a local manifestation of the universal church through which Jesus Christ continues to minister to the world by His Holy Spirit. We should seek to fulfill this calling through corporate worship services, through a program of Christian nurture by which the membership may be strengthened in their faith and love through the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by word and deed, and through ministering to human need in the name of Jesus Christ. Likewise, we should affirm the Holy Bible as the inspired word of God and the basis for our beliefs. We should voluntarily band ourselves together as a body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation of lost humankind. The admission of members and the termination of members should be basically the same for all of our churches.

For the Missionary Baptist Church, the above are matters that should be common to all of us. However, there are some things that are unique only to your church. Whether you have five or twenty-five persons on your Pulpit Selection Committee and whether they are all deacons or a representation of the church body is a matter for your church to decide. Whether women will

serve as deacons or how many persons will be needed to constitute a quorum is a church matter. So please do not adopt sample by-laws as your own without first adjusting them to fit your situation. You see, my by-laws may call for a business/conference meeting once every three months and you may want one every month, depending upon how much you like to argue. "Just kidding."

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

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Institutional and Specialized Ministries

THE FORMATION OF A JUSTICE COALITION

By Michael Smith, Sr. Chairman

On January 10th and 11th of 2002, PBS aired a Frontline Documentary, which has drawn public interest from across the country. This broadcast has enraged the citizens of North Carolina's Eleventh Judicial District. The citizens became proactive in a unified, tri-county, initiative to free a young man who had been wrongly convicted and imprisoned for almost five years. Terence Garner was a sixteen-year-old African American male who was arrested and convicted in a Johnston County Court for a crime that another Terrance (DeLoach) confessed to committing. Rather than make a wrong right - the approach used by the State was to keep young Terence in prison and not charge the actual Terrance who committed the crime.

The Superior Court Judge who tried the case even labeled this conviction as "an ordinary crime". This uncaring, unconcerned and unwavering disposition of a judge sworn to dispense justice has left a negative image for Johnston, Lee and Harnett Counties. Johnston County is known nationwide for its proud history of discrimination, hatred, oppression and inequality. It was so proud of its legacy of discrimination that billboards could be found along its major highways boldly stating "THIS IS KLAN COUNTRY, LOVE IT

OR LEAVE IT". Even though the signs are gone, cases such as the Terence Garner conviction which was categorized as "ordinary" vividly illustrates that the mentality of discrimination, hatred, oppression and inequality are still in existence in the Eleventh Judicial District of North Carolina. It is a sad scenario when elected officials ignore all evidence that could determine the outcome of a case. The Terence Garner case should serve as an eye opener for the citizens of North Carolina. One cannot help but draw the conclusion that if this is happening in the courts of Johnston, Lee and Harnett Counties, it is without a doubt happening in judicial districts across the state. "Politics over justice" cannot and must no longer be tolerated in the state of North Carolina.



Rev. Michael R. Smith, Sr.

We can no longer sit back in silence and passiveness and allow our children to be carted off to prison. The days of overworked and underpaid court appointed attorneys representing our young men; district attorneys offering innocent men plea-bargain for lesser sentences and judges who have been sitting on the bench so long that they think and feel that their personal agenda takes precedence over justice must come to an, abrupt halt. These factors have crippled the judicial process in the 11th Judicial District of North Carolina. Justice is supposedly blind, but appears to lift her blindfold when underprivileged and economically stressed defendants appear before the

courts. Due to a lack of interest in the judiciary process by the voting public, justice seems to avail itself only to those who can afford to hire a private attorney.

The most strategic avenue available to stop the injustices that are too frequently being brought against our people is for us to come together. The faith community is the one agency in existence whose directives and direction are heavenly inspired and weighed on a simple concept of right and wrong and good and evil. The faith community not and should not be distracted with politics, separation, unfairness and popularity, but should stand wholly on a belief of
Continued on Page 26...

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA

President, Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.

2nd ANNUAL

CRIME

&

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CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 27 - 28, 2002

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CHAPLAIN - PAMLCO CORRECTIONAL CENTER

"REACHING, RECONCILING, RESTORING BROKEN LIVES"

Lott Carey News



Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr.

THE YOUTH SEMINAR

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention announces its forty-eight (48) Annual Christian Youth Seminar from June 22 - June 28, 2002 at Shaw University in Raleigh. The theme is "Go" Mark 16:15. The Youth Seminar Activities will include:

Worship, Bible Studies, Gospel Singing, Oratorical Contest, Cheerleading, Local Mission Outreach Projects, Hangout time, Music, Drama, Games, Mission Workshops, Involvement Sessions, HIV/AIDS Awareness Sessions and Rap Sessions.

1. Youth must be 14 to 25 years or older (must be born on or before December 31, 1988).
2. All Seminar participants must register and pay the registration fee including all adult Chairpersons.
3. Send a completed individual registration form for each person, including adults. Please print or type.
4. If attending seminar as a group, please send one group registration form along with the individual registration forms.

5. Early registration is \$200 per person and must be postmarked by May 17, 2002.
6. Late registration is \$225.00 per person and runs from May 16 to June 3, 2002.
7. There will be no refunds for cancellations after June 3, 2002.
8. Make one check/money order payable to: The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention - Youth Seminar 2002.
9. Mail all registration material and checks to: The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention

Youth Seminar 2002
300 I Street NE, Suite 104
Washington, DC 20002

10. If a group member is unable to attend, you may replace that person with someone of the same sex. You will need to complete an individual registration form for that person. Please do not add persons to your group without calling to check for availability of space.

11. Each participant must complete the individual medical release form. This form should be notarized. Participants under 18 years should have this formed signed by a parent/guardian. Group leaders should keep the original form and mail a copy with the rest of the registration materials. Please note that completion of this form is required for participation in the seminar.

12. Churches are invited to send a donation of at least \$100 for the support of our youth work mission projects.

13. Seminar participants are reminded to bring a nightly offering for the support of our youth work mission projects.

14. Participation in this seminar is limited, so please register early to secure a place.

15. Each group is responsible for bringing its own chairpersons.

GREATER ST. PAUL GIVES \$50,000 FOR AIDS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Durham—The number one killer of African-Americans between the ages of 25 and 44 is AIDS. One Durham church is committed to changing that and to make a difference. Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church donated \$50,000 for AIDS research and education during its "Family and Singles' Night Out" Worship and Baptismal Service. A check was presented formally to the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, USA. Accepting the gift was the organization's Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. David E. Goatley, who was also the guest preacher for the service.

"The Black church always has been the heart, soul and strength of its communities. We have a responsibility to help find a cure and to educate, educate, educate our people about AIDS," said Dr. William Hazel Height, senior minister and pastor of the church.

Greater St. Paul has been instrumental in ensuring that the projects of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention become a reality. It recently helped the convention build wells in African communities that needed clean water for drinking and irrigation. For Kenya and Jamaica, Greater St. Paul collected over 300 pairs of shoes and hundreds of pieces of clothing for women, men and children. In a trip to South Africa, Dr. Height delivered hundreds of Bibles and hymnals to African churches there. Thusly, making this contribution is just one more way the church wants to make a difference. "We're a missionary Baptist church and that means our focus is always to be a blessing to others, and in doing so

we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world. We've begun at home and now we've spread abroad," Height said. He went on to say that during his travels to various villages in African countries he's found that many of the communities know little about AIDS and live in unsanitary environs in 5x5 huts with dung floors and no indoor plumbing. AIDS is spreading faster in Africa than any other part of the world and it is dramatically affecting African Americans.

In America, AIDS is spreading faster among African-American women than any other group. Greater St. Paul's Sisters' Breakthrough Ministry plans to join its AIDS ministry to do mass education within the church and the community in which it serves. It donated nearly \$5,000 to fight breast cancer last year and plans to exceed that in 2002. African-American women are more likely to die from breast cancer than whites, largely due to late detection. AIDS awareness and education joins the aggressive breast cancer initiative at the church. "It's time to find a cure for both of these diseases. We believe with aggressive research and education, AIDS and breast cancer can be eradicated within the next 5 years," said Dr. Height.

For nearly 8 years the church has had an AIDS Ministry established by Height which provides care teams to help those with the disease live, and sometimes ultimately die, with dignity. He is the original board chair of Smithfield-based DAPAA, Drugs and AIDS Prevention Among African Americans. "Everyone deserves to have a good quality of life. Making this donation will help do that and ultimately save lives," Dr. Height proclaimed.

For more information, contact Dr. Height or Minister Rubie Britt Height at 680-GSP 1 or 6826613.

KIDS CORNER



GOD CALLS MOSES

The leader of Egypt was very angry with the people of Israel. He commanded that every boy under the age of two should be killed. But one mother said, "I will not let

my baby boy be killed!" To hide him, she made a small basket, coated it with tar to keep water out, and put the basket in the river. The baby's sister kept watching the basket to make sure it was safe. Who should come down to the river but the daughter of the leader of Egypt! She found the basket and opened it. "A baby!" she cried. "I wonder who he belongs to? I don't have a child of my own, so I'll take him to the palace and he will become my son." She named him Moses; that means "taken out of the water." God was watching over Moses, too, because He arranged to have Moses' own mother move to the palace to take care of him. She fed him, dressed him and taught him about the God of Israel and the customs of his people.

After Moses was grown, he began to see how the people of Egypt mistreated the people of Israel. One time he saw an Egyptian beating an Israelite. He became

so angry that he killed the Egyptian. When Moses realized what he had done, he became very afraid. "What will happen to me?" he wondered. He became so afraid that he decided to run away from Egypt. He ended up in the land of Midian, which is a very long way from Egypt. "At least they won't be able to find me here," he told himself. Moses got a job taking care of sheep for one of the leaders of Midian. One day while he was out with the sheep, he saw a very strange sight. A bush was on fire, but wasn't burning up! The branches weren't turning black and the leaves weren't falling off like any other bush he had seen burn before. He moved closer to see what was causing it. All at once, the bush talked to him! Oh, yes it did, and it knew his name. "Moses! Moses! Take off your shoes. You are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your fathers, I have heard the cries of my people Israel. You, Moses, will go to Egypt

and tell the leader to let my people go!"

Moses thought, "I left Egypt because I was afraid for my life, and God wants me to go back?" The He started to argue with God. "God, they will want to know who sent me. What shall I tell them."

"I AM THAT I AM! Tell them I AM has sent you."

"But God," Moses argued, "I'm not very good at talking. How can I talk before the leader of Egypt?"

"Don't worry Moses. When the time comes, I will tell you what to say." After all that, Moses finally said to himself, "If God wants me to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, then that is just what I will do. I will trust Him to help me do whatever He wants me to do!"

God will do the same thing for YOU. He will help you do just what He tells you to do. All you need to do is say, "Yes, Lord."

Christian Education

BUILDING A CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM



Portia Brandon, M. Div
Christian Education Coordinator

Q. What church function is a divine appointment from God?
A. The pastoral office is the only direct divine appointment from God over his church. All other offices in the church are design as an office in the church, but not of the church. His/her authority in the church, as God's leader, is a moral and spiritual power, not a legal one. His/her authority rests in the fact he/she is a biblical officer. The three words elder, bishop, and pastor refer to the same office but to different functions within that office. Acts 20-28.

Q. What test is given by which we may distinguish between true and false shepherds?
A. "To the law and to the testimony: If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20. "For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth." Malachi 2:7.

Q. If God's watchman (pastor) fail to warn the wicked, what terrible responsibility will be charged to their account?
A. "If you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand." Ezekiel 33:8.

Q. Who is responsible for the organization and meetings of the church?
A. Worship, preaching, instruction, evangelism, and regular meetings for the entire church body are under the direction of the pastor. Therefore, deacons or no other auxiliary of the church has the authority to make decisions, or call church meetings, without the approval of the pastor.

Q. What does Solomon say of those who render evil for good?
A. "Whoso reward evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house." Proverbs 17:13.

Q. Who trains the deacons?
A. The Pastor.

Q. Is there a Scripture reference about the deacon board?
A. There is no scripture reference about chairperson of deacon or deacon board, just as nothing is said about trustee board or any other auxiliary of the church. Deacons have not been set apart to act as a board of directors. They were not ordained to run the church. Deacons assist the pastors in meet-

ing the needs of the church of God. They free the pastors so they can be more effective in the ministry of the Word and pastor the flock.

Q. What does the Ordination of deacons mean?
A. Ordination of deacons by a Baptist church set men/women apart to aid the pastor in ministering to the congregation.

Q. How should faithful Christian leaders be regarded?
A. "let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour." 1 Timothy 5:17.

Q. What does the word pastor mean?
A. The undershepherd of the sheep.

Q. What does the word deacon mean?
A. Servant. Philippians 1:1.

Q. Where do we find the origin of deacons?
A. The office of deacon was first instituted by the apostles of the Jerusalem church, to meet a specific need that had developed within the congregation. "And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration." (Act 6:1).

Q. What were the moral criteria for those who would serve?
A. They must be of "honest report, full of the Holy Ghost, and wisdom. (Acts 6:3).

Q. What happens when Spirit-filled deacons support Spirit-filled pastors?
A. "And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith." (Acts 6:7)

Q. In the local church who has the authority to call a preacher to pastor the church?
A. Neither the deacons, trustees, nor any unit or individual of the church has the authority to call a pastor nor dismiss him; the church can take this action alone.

Q. Are the deacons supposed to stick together?
A. The deacons are not supposed to stick together; they are supposed to stick to the pastor and the church. If they try to stick together otherwise, they are likely to get stuck up in the mire confusion, disgrace, and embarrassment to the whole church, by sticking to each other in matters that are wrong.

Q. For what purpose were these gifts given to the church?
A. "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:...that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they live in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." Ephesians 4:12-15.

Q. What is one of the growing problem

Baptists should be aware of?
A. Be mindful of those who may be Baptists but who are in sympathy with other associations-denominations and whose intent is to lead the church away from its chosen affiliation.

Q. What are the major Baptist bodies?
A. (1) Associations
(2) State Conventions
(3) National Conventions
(4) Baptist World Alliance

Q. Why does Baptist advocate a regenerated membership?
A. Because the Gospel demands it. John 3:1-8

Q. Are all members saved?
A. No. Acts 5:1-11.

Q. What is the specific meaning of a congregation polity?
A. The governing body of the church is the congregation. All church committees are accountable to the congregation for proper function and efficient operation. All persons are elected by the church. The New Testament pattern is that of congregation. The congregation elected deacons (Acts 6:1-6), expelled members (1 Cor. 5:4-5), and received member (2 Cor. 2:5-8). The New Testament speaks of the church as the body of Christ, which includes all of the redeemed of all ages.

Q. What is God's plan of church finance?
A. To contribute cheerfully and regularly. 1 Cor 16:2. There only one plan of church finance in the Bible, and that is tithes and offerings from his people. The tithe is the tenth, meaning that God's people are to bring a tenth of their incomes to the Lord and his work. Offerings are the amounts that are given above the tenth. This is the plan that God teaches all through his Word, and it is the one scriptural plan of church Finance.

Q. What is the scripture position on church conflict taken to court?
A. "Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to the law before the unjust, and not before the saints? Do ye not know that that the saints shall judge the world? And if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matter?" (1 Corinthians 6:1-2).

Q. How should we treat those who have wronged us?
A. "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him, if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head." Romans 12:19, 20.

Q. How should the Church body address the pastor?
A. The pastor should be address as pastor. (Church Administration-Christian Education for the 21st Century-Portia Brandon)

A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MOMENT



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President, Congress of Christian Education

As we move quickly through this calendar year we readily become aware that we are now in the twenty-first century and also in the early years of a new millennium. This is important because those of us who are holding elected positions know this as election

Year. The question to the parent body (GBSC), the congress, the laymen, and the ushers is "Who shall lead?" The scripture is replete with information detailing how the Lord chose leaders for His people. Couple that with the advent of the information age and we find that our (GBSC) members are more astute and require more teaching and training than ever before. This places an increase demand on the time and talents of our officers.

The new administrations will have to become increasingly more available to work for and with the people of God. We, the Congress of Christian Education, need to revisit our role as Christian Educators and seek to understand what God want in a leader. A good model for us to study is the call of Abram to lead.

The role of the Congress of Christian Education is Kingdom building which in a Way parallels the mission the Lord had for Abram. Visit Genesis 11:27 to 50:26 and note how the Lord called a succession of leaders for His people Israel. If we remain mindful that it was God who called and led Abram then the new officers of the Congress will yield to the movement of the Holy Spirit in their lives and be led by him to carry out the charge of their mission. Note that when the Lord called Abram the call had two imperatives or factors THAT COULD NOT BE AVOIDED. Each of these imperatives had subsequent promises. When Abram responded by being faithful and obedient to God's Call he became the epitome of faith in the Bible, Romans 4:1-3.

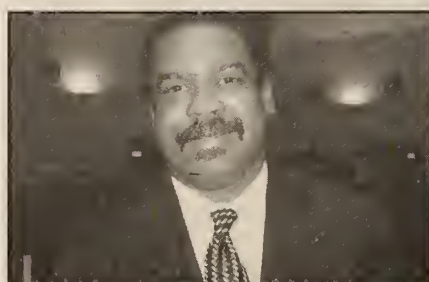
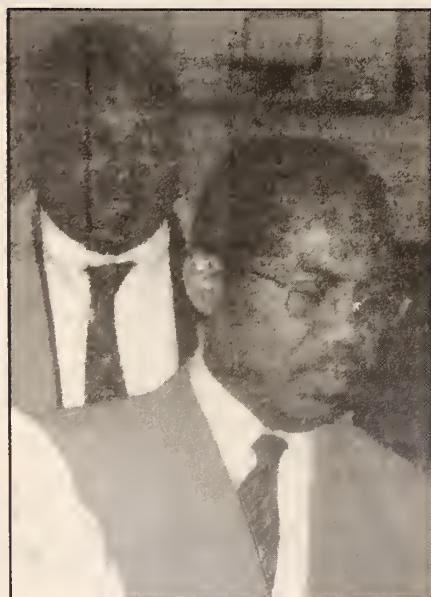
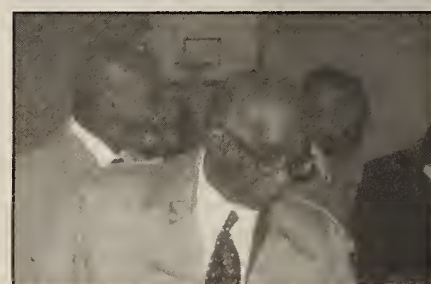
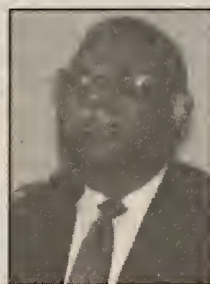
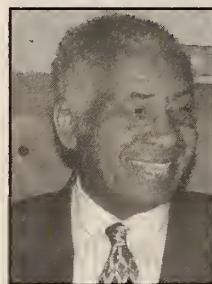
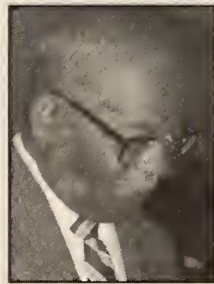
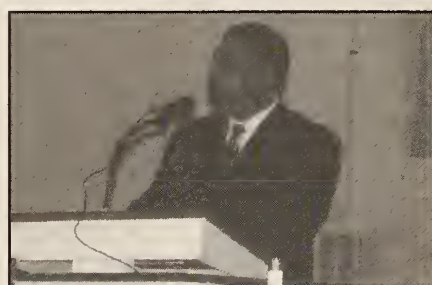
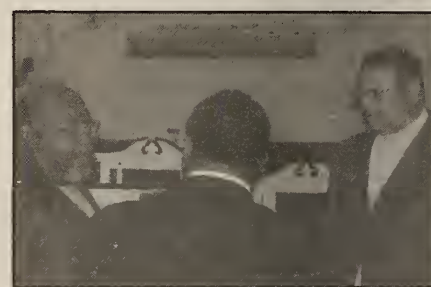
In the first imperative the Lord sought Abram's obedience, his love for Him, his

continued on page 26...

Highlights from The Minister's Council



Dr. Leonzo Lynch



SHAW NEWS

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE THIRD VICE PRESIDENT SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY NEWS



Reverend N. T. Davis

Grace and Peace be with you from the Lord Christ. God's only Son who He raised from the dead and a new day has begun.

Spring time is here, the flowers are beautiful and the trees are bringing forth their leaves. The grass is turning green and the whole earth is full of God's Glory.

As we approach the closing of the school year let us pray for our youth and young adults. The job situation will be hard pressed for many: Let us as Pastors and churches do what we can to give guidance to the youth.

A Charge To Keep I Have, A God to

Glorify who gave His son my Soul to save, and fit it for the sky.

To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill O May it all my power engage to do my Master's will.

Shaw University is doing well as is Shaw Divinity School. We ask for your full support for our institution. God is still blessing us.

I want to thank Dr. Tripp for the wonderful personality for the Pastors Conference. We are looking forward to the next year.

Pray for this ministry, that she will accomplish her mission.

As Spring arrive, it is time for the spiritual fire to be rekindled and our spiritual life renewed. We had a mild winter yet we must stay focused, let us renew our faith. We know the God we serve is good all the time.

From the dark, cold days of slavery He has brought us. He has done marvelous things for us. It is by his hand that He has lead us. By His saving Grace He saves us. Through His Son He reconciles us to himself Let us celebrate Him each Sunday Morning in Worship.

Let our daily lives celebrate him as we walk and talk along the way.

Let us raise up our children and teach them the way of our Christ.

Let us praise him and love him with all our heart, soul, mind and spirit for without him we are nothing.

The apostle write in I Corinthians 13 that Faith, Hope and Charity, the greatest of these is Charity. So let us love one another.

Shaw yacht to tackle the Elite Eight By Bonitta Best

Reprint Permission from The Triangle Tribune

RALEIGH - Shaw coach Joel Hopkins gathered his players around him during practice March 12 and gently but forcefully whispered words of ... something. Hopkins was careful not to let the reporter standing nearby hear a word. Shaw doesn't have to do a lot of loud talking these days, its play speaks volumes. What seemed impossible five months ago now looks like another rung in the improbable Bears' ladder. After two back-to-back come-from-behind one point victories in the South Atlantic Region last weekend, the Bears are ever closer to a national title - something no Shaw team has ever accomplished. "We are very confident and starting to become more comfortable with our game plan which we planned for the end of the year," said CIAA Player of the Year Ronald Murray. "We're all starting to put it together where it really counts." Murray should know. The 6-4, 190-pound senior guard "put it together" and more in the regional final against host Carson-Newman March 9. Down by 12 late in the second half, and teammates J.R. Raymond and Kenyon Booker down for the count in a physical game, Murray set the team squarely on his shoulders and scored 29 of his 36 points in the second half to lead Shaw to a 6968 win and a date in the Elite Eight. "In the second half, being the good team that we are, we fought back to the end," said center Steve Bynes. "Ronnie pretty much

carried us the second half. We fought that game, we put it in and now we're on our way to the nationals." The difference between this Shaw team and last year's is discipline. Last year's team would have disintegrated into an individualized showboat routine, and the Bears would be sitting home about now. "We weren't together as a unit as we are this year," Murray said. "This year we clicked from the beginning. Me and Steve knew we wanted to go out with a bang so we weren't going to let the same mistakes that happened last year happen this year." In just two years, Hopkins has Shaw vying for a national title, and he is enjoying rubbing people's noses in it. "I think a lot of people said 'OK, they have good talent,' but they really never thought we'd have the type of team to do the things that we have done," he said. "A lot of coaches have been coaching in the league a long time, and it has taken them 16, 17 years to win a championship. "There's nothing like winning the CIAA title because I didn't win one as a player, nor (assistant) coach (Cleo) Hill. But for a lot of people, that's the ultimate. My goal is to say 'OK, let's try to win a national championship.' "I expect to be there. I've been expecting to be there for two years. Next year, I'm going to expect to win it all again." Shaw plays West Georgia at 6 p.m. March 20.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship; playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to: Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50 Wake Forest, NC 27587 - (919) 870-8874

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY SPRING. GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589 Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as, well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church Wilmington, North Carolina

The Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes /letters of interest from licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist ministers for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, where, when and how long did you pastor a church.
3. Administrative and leadership ability
4. Strong knowledge of Missionary Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
5. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees
6. Good written and oral communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups
7. Have excellent teaching skills
8. Must be family oriented and possess strong Godly character
9. planning organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promotes church growth and progress.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

- Letter of interest /resume
- Copy of license and ordination certification
- Proof of education and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone numbers of at least five references of which only two can be ministers

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
Attn: Rena Lennon
P.O. Box 1970
Wilmington, NC, 28402

SHAW PHOTOS

Congratulations Shaw Bears 2002 CIAA Champions



Assistant Coach Cleo Hill with Player Kenyon Booker after the Championship game



Coach Hill (far right) with the Team after the CIAA

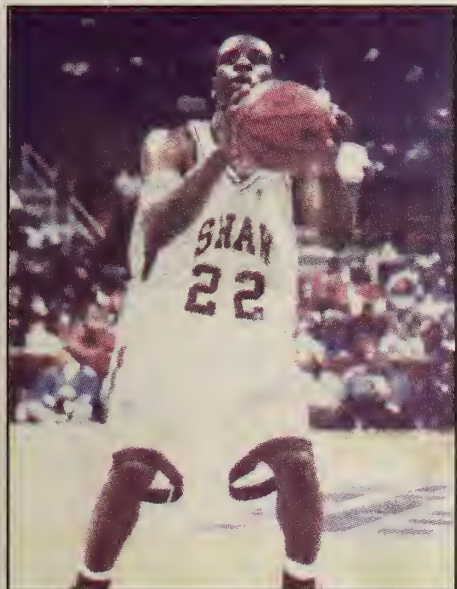


Shaw University Fans during the CIAA



Coach Hopkins (center), Asst. Coach Hill (far right), and Assist Coach Byron Williams (2nd from far right), and Team Manager Garrard Watson, in the huddle during the Championship Game

SHAW PHOTOS



CIAA Player of the Year, Ronald Murray prepares for a shot during the CIAA Championship Game



Coach Joel Hopkins cuts down the Basketball Net after the winning game



Coach Joel Hopkins with Stan Lewter during a post game interview



President Shaw looks on as Coach Joel Hopkins is interviewed by Stan Lewter with Urban Sports during a post game interview



President Shaw with the Basketball team holding the Championship Banner



Shaw University Basketball Team after their Championship victory

News Around The Globe

North Carolina Families Deserve a Living Wage



*By Sorien Schmidt
Submitted By Carol Smith
Associate Editor*

Many of those we most admire in this country don't have wide name recognition. These are the American heroes who have put their lives on the line or are helping the country recover from the tragic attacks on New York and the Pentagon.

Unlike the celebrities whose faces dominate the media, these every day "heroes" aren't rich and famous. In fact, it's worth looking at whether as a group they even receive just compensation for priceless work.

Of course, if our nation's firefighters (who earn an average entry pay of \$9.33 an hour in North Carolina), police officers (\$11.20 an hour in North Carolina) and other public servants aren't rich in financial terms, they earn an abundance of public esteem just by doing their jobs every day.

High regard by the public, however, can't put groceries on the table or pay childcare costs.

Yet, these are the ordinary "heroes" we rely on every day -our preschool teachers (average entry pay of \$6.17 an hour in North Carolina) construction helpers (who earn only \$7.58 an hour) security guards (\$6.55 an hour), and others.

At the very least, we can provide these working families with a wage they can live on.

As many as a third of people in North Carolina earn below the amount needed to achieve a basic standard of living, according to a report by the North Carolina Justice and Community Development Center and NC Equity.

Many of these workers are earning the minimum wage of \$5.15 an hour - a standard that hasn't been raised since 1997 and is woefully inadequate. Most low-wage earners aren't teenagers trying to earn pocket money either. The report shows that 80 percent of today's low-wage workers are between 19 and 60 years old and are the primary wage earners in their families.

These citizens struggle to make a life for themselves and their families every day and pay the rent, utilities, childcare costs, and purchase food and clothes. These struggling families are the hardest hit by an economic downturn.

Many of North Carolina's workers pay plenty of taxes. However, a substantial number didn't receive any federal tax rebates when the checks were mailed this summer. More than 1.4 million North Carolina taxpayers earning under \$40,000 failed to receive the full federal tax rebate, according to Citizens for Tax Justice.

North Carolina's natural beauty, high standard of living and comparatively low cost of living are attracting more and more wealthy and upper middle class people to the state. But working families are being left behind. It's time we demanded a decent standard of living for all North Carolinians.

The North Carolina Justice and Community Development Center and NC Equity have compiled a living income standard that outlines the basic budget needed for our North Carolina families.

This basic wage in North Carolina (and elsewhere in the country) is nowhere near the \$5.15 federal minimum wage. The real cost of living in North Carolina for two adults and two young children requires a wage of at least \$7.12 an hour for each adult working full time. Costs are even higher in urban areas where two adults need to earn

\$8.12 an hour to make ends meet.

Many of our public servants who put the lives on the line can't afford to live in the urban areas they serve. Only 136 of 68 Raleigh police officers live in the city because housing prices are so high. The National Low-Income Housing Coalition recently estimated that it takes \$11.27 an hour for a worker to afford a two-bedroom apartment in North Carolina - assuming that such an apartment can be found for \$500 monthly.

At the national level, Congress must raise the federal minimum wage. Similarly, North Carolina legislators could pass an increase at the state level to achieve the same goal. City councils and county boards of commissioners can pass minimum wage resolutions to build momentum for change.

Employers in the private sector can also do their part. They can pay their starting employees a living wage of at least \$8.50 an hour rather than the inadequate minimum wage that is only about two-thirds of the (Even that increase is inadequate for single parents in urban areas.)

Our struggling families shouldn't have to patch together two or three jobs or skimp on food or medicines to pay for housing. North Carolina must provide a living wage so that our community "heroes" receive fair compensation for the priceless ways they contribute to our community.

Advent Spirituality Center sit Mum Hill, NC Offers Two Unique Summer Programs

*By Sorien Schmidt
Submitted By Carol Smith
Associate Editor*

Mars Hill, NC-The Advent Spirituality Center, dedicated to nurturing Christian spirituality in a Baptist setting, is offering two special programs this summer for those seeking a deeper spiritual life. The Glenn Hinson Spiritual Formation Institute takes place; June 10-i 5 at Furman University. Creating Space; An Experiential Prayer Retreat, occurs May 3V-June 2 at High Pastures Retreat Center in Burnsville, NC.

The inaugural weeklong Glenn Hinson Spiritual Formation Institute at Furman University in Greenville, SC provides spiritual seekers an opportunity to focus on some Baptist contributions to Christian spiritual formation. Both lay and clergy persons are welcome. The Institute will include worship settings, silence, lectures, reflection, small group spiritual formation, and fellowship.

E. Glenn Hinson, retired Professor of Spirituality, Worship, and Church History at

Baptist Theological Seminary, Richmond VA, is a pioneer in the modern awakening of spiritual development. Dr. Hinson's participation in the full Institute includes at least one presentation and dialogue with the other participants.

The primary presenters are Loyd Allen, Professor of Church History and Spiritual Formation, MeAfee School of Theology, Mercer University, Atlanta, GA, and Karen Smith, Professor at the University of Cardiff, Wales, who is an authority in Baptist spirituality. Both Allen and Smith studied with Glenn Hinson while earning their PhDs at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Creating Space: An Experiential Prayer Retreat, focuses on recapturing childhood joy and creativity through prayer, music, visual arts, writing, and spending time with nature. The retreat at High Pastures Retreat Center, an interdenominational Christian retreat center located 40 miles northeast of Asheville, NC-includes group sessions on sharing ideas about creativity and creative problem solving. Afternoon sessions incor-

porate music, guided imagery, and mandala drawings as methods of asking for guidance.

Co-leaders Lynda Poston-Smith and Lynn Bruner offer years of experience in music therapy and counseling- PostonSmith has two degrees from the Manhattan School of Music, and studied and performed in England and Germany. She taught at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for 16 years, leaving there in 1994 to pursue a life of workshops, retreats, and voice recording. Lynn Bruner, Ph.D., MT-13C, is the outreach coordinator at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is a board-certified music therapist and licensed psychologist.

For more information on both programs, visit [furl:Amaun.rte.uslmlvnpispirituality-centerl](http://furl:Amaun.rte.uslmlvnpispirituality-centerl on the Internet) on the Internet; or contact Debra Huff (e-mail; advent@main.nc.us; phone: 828.689-1128). The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is supporting the Glenn Hinson Spiritual Formation Institute with a grant for publicity.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Please read the following statement and respond. Your responses will be included in the May issue of the Baptist Informer. Email your responses to csmith@microsoft.com

HOW EFFECTIVE IS HIP-HOP MINISTRIES IN THE CHURCH?

The ever-rising popularity of Hip-Hop music has begun to make an impact in the Gospel music community. What Impact does Hip Hop have in the Church? Is Hip-Hop music effective in the Church today and how much of a positive effect, if any, does it have on today's youth?

Election News

ANNOUNCEMENT



Rev. James W. Smith

Dr. James W. Smith, Moderator of Moderators of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc. announces his intentions to seek the position of Vice President AtLarge of the GBSC of NC, Inc. Dr. Smith was born and reared in Franklin County where he attended the public schools. He graduated from the former Perry's High School and later attended North Carolina Central University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Commerce degree and a Juris Doctorate from the CCU Law School. He received his seminary training from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Shaw Divinity School and earned a Master of Divinity degree from Andersonville Baptist Seminary. He is presently a Doctor of Ministry candidate at Andersonville Baptist Seminary, Camilla, GA. Dr. Smith has been a teacher, a practicing attorney and an administrator. He was the Northeast Campaign Coordinator for Congresswoman Eva Clayton during her most successful bid for congress, founder and first President of the Vance County Black Leadership Caucus. He served as

Vice Moderator at Large and Moderator of the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association, Inc. He served on the Board of Directors for Operation Breakthrough, Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunities, Inc. and the Central Children's Home.

Presently, Dr. Smith serves as parliamentarian and chairperson of Membership Committee of the Durham Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance and he is the Moderator of Moderators of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc. For the last eleven years, Dr. Smith has been the Pastor of the Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Bahama, Durham County, North Carolina. He is constantly called upon to teach seminars on Church Conflict and Legal Awareness Issues as they relate to pastors and churches and he is a trained mediator. He is married to Barbara Wess Smith and they have two children, Kendra and Joshua. They reside in Durham, NC.

The constitution of the General Baptist State Convention states that the VicePresident At-Large shall preside over the deliberations of the Convention in the absence of the president, or at the request of the President. He shall assist the President in the carrying out of the work of the Convention and shall preside over the General Board.

My education, background and experiences qualify me for the position and I am confident that I would serve with honor and distinction. I will continue to support the Unified Plan of the Convention. I will support and embrace all of our churches regardless of size or financial contributions. In the months prior to the annual session in Fayetteville, I will be lifting up the issues and matters I believe are important to the Convention.

I ask for your prayers, support, input and your vote as I seek the position of Vice President At-Large.

Our Usher, Laymen and Congress Auxiliaries will be electing new officers July 15-20, 2002 in Raleigh, NC at the Martin Street Baptist Church. The Parent Body will have its election during the Annual Session, October 28-31, 2002 in Fayetteville, NC. All churches of the General Baptist State Convention are urged to attend the Pre-Election Workshop at the Mid-Year Session on May 8, 2002 at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Winston Salem. During the Mid-Year Session the election procedures will be explained and information on the number of messengers each church may have will be distributed. Also any questions about the elections will be answered.

Candidates for the officers are included in this section.

Historian 2002 to 2006
I AM YOUR CANDIDATE FOR THE GBSC
HISTORIAN
I HAVE BEEN TRAINED TO SEARCH AND
BRING TO LIFE
HISTORICAL INFORMATION



Dr. Jasper P. Reed

Just as I attempted to bring Christian Education to the level of awareness of The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. I will do the same thing for the rich and exciting history, past and present, of the GBSC and profile some of its living history makers and their major contributions.

Election News

REVEREND NORMAN T. DAVIS A Candidate for The President of GBSC God's Choice - The People's Choice



Reverend N. T. Davis

REVEREND NORMAN T. DAVIS, the son of the late Reverend P.G. Davis and the late Bettie Davis, was born in Warren County North Carolina July 2, 1936.

I attended Elementary and the Secondary School of Warren County, graduating from the John R. Hawkins High School in 1954.

I married Juanita Barbee in 1956 and is the father of three children.

I confessed Jesus as Lord at the age of seven and was a faithful member of the Edward Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where I served as a Sunday School Teacher and Junior Superintendent and choir president.

In 1954 I moved to Chapel Hill, North Carolina and was employed by North Carolina Memorial Hospital for 20 years in the food service as a supervisor.

In 1965 Edward Grove Church and Hecks Grove Church United and became Union Grove and I was ordained as a Deacon. When it was impossible to go home, I worshipped with the First Baptist Church Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

In 1974 I was employed by IBM of Raleigh, NC as a manager of food service and remained until retirement in 1992.

In 1971 I moved to Chatham County, NC and joined New Hope Baptist Church where I served as a Deacon, Sunday School Teacher and Male Chorus member.

In 1976 I was called into the ministry by the Holy Spirit of our Christ.

I enrolled at Shaw Divinity School in August of 1976, and graduated in 1982 with the Bachelor of Divinity Degree. I was called to the Pastorate of the Bazzel Creek Missionary Baptist Church Fuquay Varina, NC February 1977.

I joined the GBSC under the leadership of Dr. J.J. Johnson. I have attended each session since and have been a faithful member leading Bazzel Creek to be one of the top forty churches in GBSC with less than 200 members.

In 1974 we sent a mission check to GBSC every month. Later moving the Church toward being a tithing Church. For the past seven years, we have been giving our ten percent or more.

In 1985 our Church was destroyed by fire; everything was lost. Having the Faith and God leading me, I encouraged the Congregation, that if we support the Association and the convention, that God would Bless us too as we built a new building for the people of God to have a place of Worship. We had a twenty year mortgage. We burned the Mortgage in eight years. To God be the Glory. The Church has been led to support the Central Children's Home, hosting a Special day since 1979. We have made special commitment to Shaw Divinity and Lott Carey.

I have served on many committees over the years, The General Board, The Executive Committee, The Ways and

Means Committee, Pastors Council and the Rural Church Committee.

At present I am serving the convention as THIRD VICE PRESIDENT, General Board and the Executive Committee as well as the J.J. Johnson Camp Committee and served as an Instructor at the Summer Youth Camp.

I was elected Worship Master of Mt. Olive Lodge, Chapel Hill, NC and served five years as Master. And I am a member of Randolph Chapter # 185 OES of Chapel Hill, NC. and The Holy Royal Arch.

I was elected President of the New Hope Union and served a four year term. Great progress was made. New Hope has one of the greatest Union Meetings I've visited any where in the State of North Carolina. I was elected Moderator of the New Hope Association and served for four years. Under my leadership for the first time in the History of the Association, all 36 churches represented before the session began in the month of July. I was awarded the Merit Award for 100% participation. During my tenure as Moderator, The New Hope Association became the fifth best association in the GBSC.

I served the Central Children's Home of Oxford as a board member since 1989 as Vice president and President. Presently serving on the board as an honorary member

AWARDS RECEIVED WERE:

1. Martin Luther King Jr. Certificate of Recognition from the General Baptist State Convention, Inc.
2. Martin Luther King, Jr. Cooperative Spirit Award, GBSC, Inc.
3. Man of the Year Award - WLLE Radio Station
4. Man of Troas - Lott Carey Convention
5. Leadership Award, District 3, New Hope Missionary Baptist Association

6. Numerous President's Awards Distinction - Shaw University Divinity School 7. Cooperative Leadership Award GBSC, Inc. 9. Numerous recognitions from the GBSC, Inc. 10. Lifetime member NAACP 11. Moderator of the Year - New Hope Missionary Baptist Association Meritorious Service. During the four years that Rev. Davis served as Moderator received 100% representation for the Association from 36 churches in the Association. 12. Has received recognition and service plaques from Shaw University Divinity School and State Missions for the support of the General Baptist State Convention.

When I am elected, I will work hard to be the best president. I will work with Archie Logan, the Executive Secretary and give the best I have to the Convention, being a part of the best Convention in the US. Yet, there are some small things I see that need changing, and I will speak to the issues. It is my prayer that you will pray for my ministry and the Convention.

I understand that the Executive Secretary is hired by the Convention to run the day to day operation and the headquarters. During my term as President of GBSC, I will work with the Executive Secretary and the General board to increase 100% more of the Churches to support the objectives of the GBSC.

I am a family man, believing in taking care of home. My hobbies are fishing, hunting and gardening.

For the past twenty five years God has given unto me a double portion of His Spirit to carry out the work and I have been blessed the entire twenty five years. ALL GLORY TO GOD.

Moving From Where We Were To Where We Are

By Rev. Dennis Brown, Field Worker



Looking unto the Author and finisher of our faith. The Lord has brought us this far by faith. Just look where we have come from. We must now empower our churches in the knowledge of the Lord for this 21st

century. Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge. KJV.

So many things have changed around us in this world in which we live. As we continue to lift up our Lord and savior He is adding to the churches daily. Now it our duty to prepare them for the task that lies ahead. They must be Orientated in what it is to become a member of the body of Christ. Those who have been traveling this way for many of years as well will need to be renewed in the commitment. Knowing that we are all members of one body that being the body of Christ and those members working together will unify us toward

common goal. NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION MANUAL

There are some things every member of every Missionary Baptist Church in GBSC should know. To highlight a few of the subject matters; What every Baptist should know about the Bible, The practical aspects of Biblical Doctrine, What every Baptist should know about its Pastor and Deaconship, Some Things we should not do as Baptists. These are a few of the subjects discussed in HUNTLEY'S MANUAL FOR EVERY BAPTIST. This book has been commended as the best basic course in Christian leadership education for Baptist church members.



Therefore those in leadership or whatever your Church-Related Position Description is, whether Presidents, Directors, Chairpersons, or Coordinators in order to move

Vice President News

From the Desk of Charles T. Bullock Vice President At Large

A Call to Service

To serve this present age, my calling to fulfill



Charles T. Bullock

God had called each of us to service just as He called Moses and many other biblical characters. When Moses was called to lead the Israelites out of bondage to freedom, he had an encounter (conversation) with God. God asked Moses a question and the occasion of the question was to reveal His power in the man who was trying to excuse himself from righteous responsibility.

According to the book of Exodus, the scene takes place in the land of Arabia where Moses is tending a flock of sheep for his father-in-law. While there over against the mountain he beheld a flame of fire coming out of a bush. God spoke to him out of the flame and commanded him to go to Egypt where he was to lead the children of Israel out of the land of bondage. As Moses made excuses, feeling inadequate to the task, God asked him "What is that in your hand?" Moses quickly answered it's a rod. God told Moses to cast it on the ground. When he obeyed, the rod became a serpent and Moses fled from before it. Then God said "Put forth thine hand and take it by the tail." When Moses caught the serpent, it became a rod again. This was the only weapon Moses had in hand, the simple little

shepherd's staff, to lead the people of God out of bondage. But this was enough when used in the power of the Lord.

As we consider the ministry of this convention, I believe we are to use the means we have at hand, trusting in the power and blessings of God to lead us in every good work. There are people in bondage we need to rescue. We have our call from God, not from the burning bush, but from the blessed Spirit. We have our shepherd's staff on which to lean. We can rescue the perishing; we can encourage the faithful; we can build a spirit within our convention that will equip and encourage the Baptist churches throughout this state to be devoted and committed spiritually and financially in order that we might serve this present age. We can use our resources, our time and our talents, our voices and our minds, our money and our inspiration to deliver our people from the present day bondages. There is the bondage of suffering because of the lack of adequate health care, the bondage of the inability of some to purchase affordable homes, the bondage of adopted and foster children and the list goes on. These are some issues with which we must deal; but before we make excuses, let us consider that which the Lord has put in our hands. The Lord has put resources in our hands and has equipped us with minds to secure necessary resources.

Let us therefore, use to the glory of God that which we have in our hands to lead our people out of bondage in this the twenty-first century. For the Lord knows our needs and He stands ready to help us. Therefore, it is my prayer that God will strengthen our steps, enlarge our vision, quicken our hopes, purify our motives, remind us of the things which do not change, help us to change the things we can, give us the wisdom to know the difference and secure us to life's unfading treasures as we serve the present age.

From the Desk of the Fourth Vice-President Rev. Nilous M. Avery, II, M. Div.

To the beloved saints of the General Baptist family and all who love the Lord:

"Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord"

(1 Timothy 1:2b, NKJV).



Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II

Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus had a knack for glorifying the common things and common people. He defended the defenseless, healed the afflicted, received the outcasts, ate with the sinners, delivered the downtrodden, elevated the oppressed, gave worth to women, loved the lepers—you name it, Jesus did it. He shook up the foundation of political correctness and mad religious self-piety.

Because of Jesus, many insignificant things took on new significance. Light, salt, sparrows, lilies, a crown of thorns, an old rugged cross, a borrowed tomb, bread & wine. Nothing was too small. . . nobody was too insignificant to merit the attention of our Lord. This brings to mind, the fact that flax in a few weeks, spring will, break forth in all its splendor. New life will appear in all its colorful glory. The handiwork of God will once again provide a marvelous array of greenery and pageantry.

I all of this, the common dandelion will, make its presence felt. The dandelion is interesting. It will grow where nothing else will. It is not prejudice, picky, nor persnickety about where it will grow. It will grow in the yard of the rich or the poor. The dandelion could care less about the race, religion, culture, or creed of the yard's owner. It will grow wherever it can take root.

The amazing thing about the dandelion is its ability to persevere - to rise above its surroundings. No matter how high the grass grows or how dry the ground becomes. The dandelion, much to the dismay of many gardeners, will rise above it all!

Some people are like that. They rise above it all. Discouragement and troubles, they RISE! Distress and criticism, they RISE! Limited resources and a succession of failures, they RISE! Red seas in front, pharaohs in the back, mountains on the side, they RISE! Hungry lions, flaming furnaces, high walls, ungrateful murmurers, they RISE!

They rise above it all because, like the dandelion, they understated that nothing can keep them down when they reach up for God's sunshine. They refuse to be smothered and bound by circumstances. The dandelion not only adds color to the drab places of earth. It eventually scatters seed.

The Central Children's Home in Oxford is similar to the dandelion. It has been able to RISE ABOVE IT ALL throughout its existence. It has often been overlooked and unappreciated. But through it all, the "home" provided color in drab places for many young people. A great number have left "the home" and have become ambassadors of Christ through their service.

Your prayers and support have made this possible. please continue to be good stewards of this ministry. Rise above the tendency to assume that all is well...refuse to be smothered by daily routines and "busyness" that may not always glorify God & edify others. Contact Mr. Michael Alston today and set up a Central Children's Home Day in your church/community. You may also contact me to come and share more about this glorious ministry:

(704) 637-0954 (o); (704) 637-1.137 (fax),
AveryRevKin@aol.com (E-mail.).

I am looking forward to seeing you soon. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen" (Philippians 4:23, NKJV).

SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CHURCH BONDS

■ What Are Church Bonds?

Church Bonds are certificates issued to provide funds for buildings or some other financial need. Governments, corporations, utilities and other non-profit organizations issue Bonds to finance many kinds of projects.

■ Are Bonds Like Stock?

No. Stock represents ownership, while Bonds represent borrowed money. With Bonds, the borrower (church) agrees to repay the investors their principal with interest.

■ How Is Interest Paid?

Simple interest Bonds pay the interest by check each six months. Compound interest Bonds accrue and compound the interest each six months with principal and interest paid at maturity. For the interest rates on our Bonds, consult the back of this brochure.

■ What Secures My Investment?

The prospectus includes a section entitled *Security for the Bonds*. Questions with regard to the security of the bonds are addressed in this section.

■ What Denominations Are Available?

Bonds are available in 1/2 year increments in any multiple of \$250.

■ How Do I Purchase A Church Bond?

Bonds are offered by churches only by means of a prospectus, which sets forth the information you need to know before making the investment. Copies of the prospectus are available from either the church or the broker.

■ How Do I Redeem My Bonds?

You really do not have to do anything, since the bonds are issued in book entry form. Upon maturity, the Trustee will automatically mail you a check for your principal plus any accrued interest. You will receive an acknowledgment within thirty days of purchase that the Trustee has registered your church Bond(s). Be sure to inform the Trustee if your address changes.

■ Can The Church Pay The Bond Off Before Maturity?

Yes, the church can redeem any or all of its Bonds on three-month intervals provided the owner of record receives a thirty-day notice. The Church would pay the accrued interest through the date of the "call."

■ When Does The Interest Begin?

The interest begins to accrue on the issue date provided the escrow agent receives payment for the Bond(s) on or before that date. Otherwise, interest will begin on the date payment is received by the escrow agent.

■ Can Bonds Be Used To Fund IRA Accounts?

Yes. You can usually transfer (rollover) your present IRA or SEP funds into a Self-Directed Account. You then instruct your Trustee to purchase Bonds to fund that account.

■ Can I Cash My Church Bond At Any Time?

No. However you would be free to sell your Bond, give it away, or borrow money on it. You cannot redeem it, though, until it matures.

■ Is The Interest Taxable?

Yes, interest on church Bonds is taxable as ordinary income. The owner will receive a 1099 annually from the registrar.

History of the Church

New St. John Baptist Church of Charlotte, North Carolina, was founded in 1914. In 1920, the church constructed its first building. The church moved to its present location in 1965 where they purchased and renovated an existing 5,280 square foot church sanctuary. The current facility is two stories with meeting rooms and classrooms on the lower level and worship area on the upper area. The basic construction is brick on block with wood frame interior and roofing.

Community Profile

The church is located in Charlotte, North Carolina. Charlotte is the trade, industrial, medical, transportation, cultural, financial, and educational center of the Charlotte Metropolitan Statistical Area. Charlotte has a population of approximately 527,291, with Mecklenburg County having a population of approximately 612,000. The church is surrounded by single-family residences on all sides, with homes valued from \$50,000 to \$70,000. Major employers in the area include, IBM, University Hospital and First Union.

Proceeds of this Issue Will be Used to...

To construct a multi-purpose church facility. This two-story multi-purpose facility will seat approximately 531 in the sanctuary, not including the choir area and will also include education space and a fellowship hall. This facility will encompass an estimated 20,000 square feet of floor space. The total estimated construction costs are \$1,714,994.

Membership/Revenues

Year	Membership	Revenues
2001*	614	\$227,322
2000	552	\$244,853
1999	496	\$230,107

*Period ending 8/30/01

Affiliations

The church is affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention and the Mecklenburg General Baptist Association.

Security for Payment of Bonds

The bonds of this issue will be secured by a general mortgage lien of the Trust Indenture on property of the Issuer located at 2000 St. Johns Church Road, Charlotte, North Carolina. An appraiser estimates the market value of 5.271 acres of land together with existing improvements thereon and to be constructed thereon to be \$2,200,000 as of the estimated completion date of February, 2002. The "As Is" market value of the existing land and facilities is estimated to be \$850,000 as of May 18, 2001. The bonds of this issue are and will remain subordinate to the \$1,000,000 loan from Wachovia Bank.

Stewardship

On October 30, 1998, the church conducted a capital stewardship campaign in which written pledges were received from members totaling \$89,000, which funds are to be used toward the building project.

INTEREST RATES

Maturities Annual Rates

6 months.....	4.50%
1 year.....	4.75%
1.5 years	5.25%
2.0 to 2.5 years.....	5.50%
3.0 to 3.5 years.....	5.75%
4.0 to 4.5 years.....	6.00%
5.0 to 5.5 years.....	6.75%
6.0 to 10.0 years.....	7.25%
10.5 to 12.0 years.....	7.50%
12.5 to 14.0 years.....	7.75%
14.5 to 15.0 years.....	8.00%

Bonds of this issue mature semi-annually on May 10 and November 10. Some bonds pay the interest by check each six months, while others compound semi-annually with both principal and interest paid at maturity. The bonds are offered in multiples of \$250.00

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy. The offering is made only by the Prospectus to which reference is made for the complete information authorized in the sale of securities. These securities will not be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission being exempt securities under section 3 (a) (4) of the Securities Act of 1933 as amended. These securities will be exempt from registration or otherwise qualified for sale in all states in which they are offered and in which states Rives, Leavell & Co. is qualified to act as a Dealer or Broker.

\$500,000 General Mortgage Bond Issue

Issue Date:

November 10, 2001



Architectural Drawing of Proposed Facility

Charlotte, North Carolina

Semi-Annual Maturities:
6 months through 15 years

Yields:

4.50% through 8.00%

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National Association of Church and Institutional Financing Organizations, Inc. (NACIFO)

Simple Interest Income Chart

Amount Invested/Semi-Annual Income

Rate	Year	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
4.50%	1/2	\$450.00	\$225.00	\$112.50	\$22.50	\$11.25	\$5.63
4.75%	1	475.00	237.50	118.75	23.75	11.88	5.94
5.25%	1 1/2	525.00	262.50	131.25	26.25	13.13	6.56
5.50%	2	550.00	275.00	137.50	27.50	13.75	6.88

Compound Interest Growth Chart

Amount Invested/Maturity Value

Rate	Year	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
5.50%	2 1/2	\$22,905.47	\$11,452.73	\$5,726.37	\$1,145.27	\$572.64	\$286.32
5.75%	3	\$23,707.68	\$11,853.84	\$5,926.92	\$1,185.38	\$592.69	\$296.35
5.83% Annual Yield	3 1/2	24,389.28	12,194.64	6,097.32	1,219.46	609.73	304.87
6.00%	4	\$25,335.40	\$12,667.70	\$6,333.85	\$1,266.77	\$633.39	\$316.69
6.09% Annual Yield	4 1/2	26,095.46	13,047.73	6,523.87	1,304.77	652.39	326.19
6.75%	5	\$27,873.10	\$13,936.55	\$6,968.27	\$1,393.65	\$696.83	\$348.41
6.86% Annual Yield	5 1/2	28,813.81	14,406.91	7,203.45	1,440.89	720.35	360.17
7.25%	6	\$30,662.29	\$15,331.14	\$7,665.57	\$1,533.11	\$766.56	\$383.28
7.38% Annual Yield	6 1/2	31,773.79	15,886.90	7,943.45	1,588.69	794.34	397.17
	7	32,925.59	16,462.80	8,231.40	1,646.28	823.14	411.57
	7 1/2	34,119.15	17,059.57	8,529.79	1,705.96	852.98	426.49
	8	35,355.96	17,677.98	8,838.99	1,767.80	883.90	441.95
	8 1/2	36,637.62	18,318.81	9,159.40	1,831.88	915.94	457.97
	9	37,965.73	18,982.87	9,491.43	1,898.29	949.14	474.57
	9 1/2	39,341.99	19,670.99	9,835.50	1,967.10	983.55	491.77
	10	40,768.14	20,384.07	10,192.03	2,038.41	1,019.20	509.60
7.50%	10 1/2	\$43,329.15	\$21,664.58	\$10,832.29	\$2,166.46	\$1,083.23	\$541.61
7.64% Annual Yield	11	44,954.00	22,477.00	11,238.50	2,247.70	1,123.85	561.92
	11 1/2	46,639.77	23,319.89	11,659.94	2,331.99	1,165.99	583.00
	12	48,388.76	24,194.38	12,097.19	2,419.44	1,209.72	604.86
7.75%	12 1/2	\$51,737.58	\$25,868.78	\$12,934.39	\$2,586.88	\$1,293.44	\$646.72
7.90% Annual Yield	13	53,742.39	26,871.19	13,435.60	2,687.12	1,343.56	671.78
	13 1/2	55,824.90	27,912.45	13,958.23	2,791.25	1,395.62	697.81
	14	57,988.12	28,994.06	14,497.03	2,899.41	1,449.70	724.85
8.00%	14 1/2	\$62,373.03	\$31,186.51	\$15,593.26	\$3,118.65	\$1,559.33	\$779.66
8.10% Annual Yield	15	64,867.95	32,433.98	16,216.99	3,243.40	1,621.70	810.85

© Rives, Leavell & Co.

DFU 11/10/2001

New Saint John Baptist Church Charlotte, North Carolina

invites your indication
of interest in
\$500,000

General Mortgage Bonds

Rives
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& Co.
SINCE 1963

Janssen Carr-Barfield
Account Executive

1400 Crescent Green, Suite C-100
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MEMBER, NASD/SIPC/SIA E-mail: jcarrbarfield@rivesleavell.com

Website:
www.rivesleavell.com

733 North State Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

This chart represents the value of securities if payment is received by the escrow agent on or before the issue date. Payment made after the issue date or securities called before maturity will earn interest at the rate specified but the actual dollar amount of redemption will be less than shown. This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor the solicitation of an offer to buy these securities. The offering is made by prospectus only.

National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD)
Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC)
Securities Industry Association (SIA)
National Association of Church and Institutional Financing Organizations, Inc. (NACIFO)

Church Marks 130 Years

From the (Lagrange
Weekly Gazette

LAGRANGE - On Sunday, members of LaGrange Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church and guest gathered for special services honoring the history of the church. During the ceremony, a plaque listing the church on the National Register of Historic Places was placed at the front entrance.

An appearance and speech by the state Rep. Dan Blue was the highlight of the service, said the Rev. Michael Johnson, the church's pastor. In addition, there was a performance by a mime team from the Sally B. Howard School of Arts in Wilson.

Johnson, the church's 13th pastor in 130 years, said the church was able to obtain the listing as a historical place through the cooperation of the president of the LaGrange Redevelopment Foundation, Conway Rose. He said Rose contacted him about the listing.

"Without Mr. Rose's assistance, our efforts would have been very difficult," Johnson stated. "We at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church are very thankful for the Rose's help."

Johnson said the event was symbolic of the outstanding leadership provided in the stoic history of the church. Success of the church is due in part to outstanding leadership of past members, such as Ruth Bryant, Ira Branch and Eugene Shaw, Johnson added. "Ebenezer would not be where it is

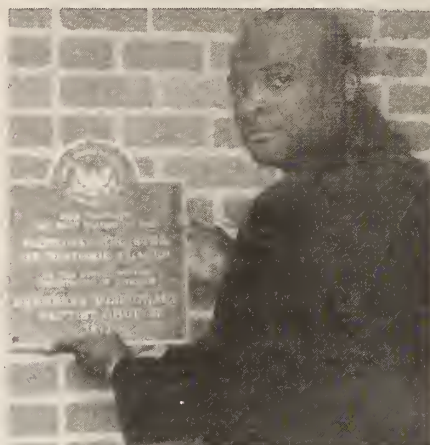


photo by Weekly Gazette/GLENN PENUEL

The Rev. Michael Johnson displays a plaque marking Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church's entry into the National Register of Historic Places

today without the hard work and efforts of the many great people we have to serve the Lord in years gone by," Johnson said.

The history of Ebenezer M.B. Church began in the early part of the 19th century under a brush shelter by the late Rev. R.H. Harper and Brother Ingram Patterson.

Following several years under a variety of pastors, the Rev. R.W. Pate was called to help the congregation fulfill its dream. During his service, the present structure was built.

Organized in 1871, Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church now has 270 members.

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church of La Grange, NC, In

Historical Plaque Dedication Ceremony
Sunday February 3, 2002
4:00 p m



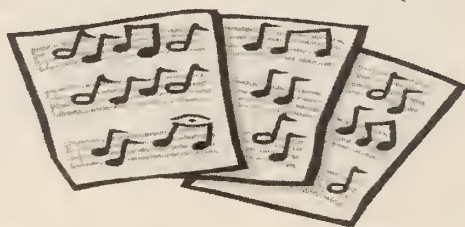
(Left to right:)

Dr. Michael A. Johnson, Pastor; First Lady Sister Wanda Johnson; Former Pastor Reverend David Hammond; Honorable Dan Blue, N.C. House of Representatives and U. S. Senator Candidate; Dr. Allen Mewborn, Chairman of Deacon Board and Historical Program Committee Member; Deacon Charles Joyner, Historical Program Committee Member; Attorney Irving Joyner, Chairperson of Historical Program

Other Dignitaries in attendance:

Honorable Phil Baddour, N.C. House of Representatives Majority Leader; Honorable Woodard Gurley, Mayor of La Grange; Honorable Johnny Mosley, Mayor of Kinston; Honorable George Graham, Chairman, Lenoir County Board of Commissioners; Mr. Conway Rose, Director, La Grange Redevelopment Foundation; Bishop J. Ervin Reddick, General Bishop of the United American Free Will Baptist Denomination, Inc; Reverend Dr. Willie J. Cox, Moderator of the Bear Creek Missionary Baptist Association; and various local pastors.

Submitted by:
Dr. Michael A. Johnson



MUSIC CONFERENCE

APRIL 25 - 27, 2002

**MS. OCTAVIA IVORY
COORDINATORS**

**HOST PASTOR: REVEREND S. BARROW, III
ST. LUKE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
MOREHEAD CITY, NC**

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Arrogance continued...

party who held the balance of power, we run roughshod over an already wounded people, God shifted one man's allegiance and change the political legislative course of this nation. And, then God showed me if he desired a mere pretzel could change a nation's outlook. Maybe that's what Solomon was talking about when he said: *The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord as the rivers of waters: he turneth it whersoever he will. Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the Lord perceiveth the hearts. To do justice and judgment is more acceptable than sacrifices. A high look and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin. (Proverbs 21:1-4)*

Keep on praying church God is still in control!

Tra-ill dark on ev-ry hand, and we cannot understand, All the ways that God we lead us to that blessed Promised land; He guides us with his eye and we'll follow till we die: For we'll understand it better and by.

More Adoption and Foster Care News...

Steps to Adoptions

By Earl Horton
Director of Public Relations
GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

Before considering on becoming an adoptive and foster care parent there are several steps that must be completed before a child could be placed in a home. The adoption and foster care process will not go quickly. With the Holy Spirit guiding you along the way no problem should exist. The only barrier that could be present is the barrier not willing to be broken by a family or individual who does not want to make a difference in the life of child.

Choose an Adoption Agency

The North Carolina County Departments of Social Services, as well as private agencies, can provide or arrange for adoption services. There are no fees to adopt a waiting child through any Department of Social Services or licensed child placing, state-contracted agency. You will want to ask about adoption assistance benefits and supports available for an adopted child and the time frame for completing the pre-placement assessment.

Submit an Application

To begin the process, you will first complete an application for adoption at the agency you select. The agency will ask about your family and the types of children that you would like to parent.

Complete the Pre-Placement Assessment

You will participate in a series of family consultations with a social worker to help you understand both the adoption process and your responsibilities as an adoptive parent. Your agency may require you to take special preparation and selection classes to prepare you to become an adoptive parent. These classes are important. They will provide you with information and the necessary skills to prepare you for a child who

has experience losses. They also help you assess your ability to provide a home for such a child.

Work with your Social Worker to Find the Right Child

Once your pre-placement assessment is completed your social worker will work with you to locate a child whose needs can be met in your family.

Visit with Your Child

Once a child has been identified for you, a visiting plan is set up so that the child and your family can get to know each other before a placement is made.

Bring Your Child Home

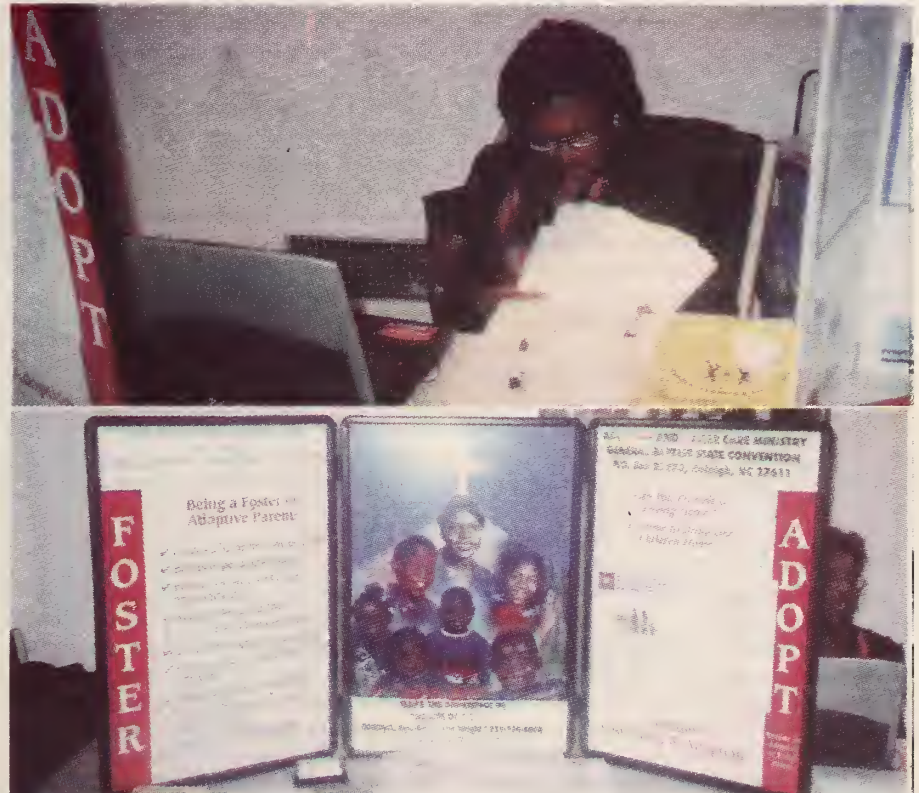
All children, even young children, will have some adjustment problems when they join a new family. A child moving into a new home needs much patience, tolerance and love. Your social worker should be there to support you.

Supervisory Period

North Carolina law requires your child to be in your home at least three to six months before the adoption process can be legally completed. In some instances the time needed for adjustment and support will be longer. During this time, your social worker will visit with you in your home to provide support and assistance.

Legalize the Adoption in Court

While some adoptive parents choose to file their own legal documents, it is recommended that you use an attorney for filing the legal proceedings. The legal fees can be reimbursed for waiting children of North Carolina.



(Top photo) Jo-Ellen Paige working so diligently at the Minister's Conference held in Charlotte. (Bottom photo) The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Booth at the Minister's Conference held in Charlotte.

Answers to commonly asked questions...

By Earl Horton
Director of Public Relations
GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

Who are the children?

The children in North Carolina are waiting for adoption because birth parents' legal rights have been relinquished voluntarily or the courts have terminated the parental rights, usually because of abuse or neglect. Most of the children are school-aged, some are teen-agers, some have brothers and/or sisters who need a family where they can grow up together, some have special needs, but all need the love and support of a permanent family of their own through adoption. Kids grow better in families.

Who can adopt?

In North Carolina, a single person or married couple over 18 years old can adopt. You can rent an apartment or own your own home, work outside your home or be a stay-at-home parent. You can be a parent already or have no children at home. Adoptive parents come from all walks of life, with a wide range of life styles, philosophies, and jobs. Parents who want to adopt need to consider what it mean to adopt a child into their family and how this will affect their lives, as well as the life of the child. They must be ready to give a child or children opportunities to develop at their own rate to their fullest abilities-physically, academically, socially, and emotionally-with realistic expectations. Adoptive parents need to be willing to share their

home and accept as a full member of the family a child who needs a loving home.

How much does it cost to adopt?

There is generally no fee to adopt one of North Carolina's waiting children.

What is a subsidy?

A subsidy is adoption assistance available to help meet expenses of caring for adopted children. Adoption assistance is based on the child's needs, not the parents' financial situation. The amount of assistance may vary according to the child's age and needs. Additional assistance may be available to help pay for medical, psychological, or other services. You may also qualify for reimbursement of some adoption costs.

What is a pre-placement assessment?

Families who want to adopt a child must have a pre-placement assessment (home study) from a licensed child-placing agency. The assessment is an educational process to help your social worker get to know you, and for you to learn about adoption and some of the children needing homes. The process, procedures and requirements vary from agency to agency, usually consisting of a series of educational sessions and a combination of individual and group meetings. The assessment will take several months. When you are considered for a child, the child's history, abilities, needs and future expectations will be shared and discussed with you. Decisions about the placement made by the child's social worker are based on the pre-placement assessment of your family.



Teresh Lee, Foster Parent and Church Member of First Baptist Church-Holly Springs



The Reverend Otis Byrd, Pastor of First Baptist Church-Holly Springs

Justice Coalition continued...

justice for all. But over the years, the faith community has become a divided people. A house divided is destined to fall and the faith community has been divided too long. We have been divided on black and white issues. We have been divided on denominational issues. We have been divided on economic issues. We have been divided on demographical issues. We have been divided on doctrinal issues. We have been divided for so long that as faith based organizations, we have literally turned on ourselves and see our allies as enemies. As we fight and compete with one another, innocent men and women are being wrongfully accused, unfairly tried and convicted and sentenced to long prison terms.

Rather than fight and compete against one another, we must circle the wagons and collectively mount a defense against the vigorous attacks that are incarcerating and crippling our communities. One means of combating the unfair justice system is to form some sort of Justice Coalition. The process is a very easy one to initiate. The coalition that we have instituted in Johnston, Lee and Harnett Counties can serve as a model. It is our desire to start a Justice Coalition in every county within the state of North Carolina. Based on the precedence that has been formed with the freedom campaign for Terence Garner, every community should see the need for such a vanguard against injustice.

A coalition can prove to be an invaluable tool in the fight for justice and equality. Such a coalition should be comprised of business owners, churches from all denominations, citizens of all ethnic backgrounds; elected officials, civil rights, fraternal and

civic organizations/clubs. As a coalition, the primary aim is the pursuit of justice, not division. As a coalition of citizens in the pursuit of justice, there are many measures that can be taken to ensure that justice is never sidetracked. A coalition can present a presence with a message of non-tolerance. Requests can be made to the Judicial Standards Commission to raise questions concerning judges. The North Carolina State Bar can be sought to raise questions and concerns about the conduct and misconduct of District Attorneys and attorneys. As a community we have the authority to ensure that our legal system functions in a manner that is fair and impartial.

The time is now to get involved. The time is now to bring about change. The time is now for North Carolina to stand together and say that enough is enough. By remaining silent, we give the system the consent to continue on with business as usual. To remain silent gives the establishment the green light to continue sending innocent men and women to prison. Every effort should be made to get the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Every effort must be made to ensure that all reasonable doubt is removed before sentences are carried out. As community leaders, it is our Christian duty to assist those who fall victim to a system that practices segregated justice. For information on how to get a coalition started in your area, please contact the First Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 1422, Smithfield, NC 27577 (919) 9347007. A simple checklist can be applied to determine if you should get involved and/or if a justice coalition is needed: "If it were you or your loved one wrongly convicted, would you want someone to come to

Christian Education continues...

willingness to submit to the Lord's instructions and to follow them. The Lord told Abram Leave your comfort zone and go to a land where I will show you, Genesis 12:1-3. That is to say you must be willing to leave your family, the comfort of your home, the relative security of the area you reside in and go to some place you probably have never heard of before and meet with people you do not know in order to do my work. Then comes the Promises to the officers of the Congress. I will (a) make the Congress a great ministry, (b) Pour out my blessings before you, and (c) make your tenure a period of greatness in the history of the Convention. Just a note to the next administration. We do not know how the Lord called Abram. So be careful how you entertain strangers this could be the Lord calling you to minister.

The second imperative literally means, "Be a blessing." First Abram had to obey and submit to God. Then the promises made in the first imperative would make him a blessing. In other words you have to accept the first imperative before you can receive the promises in the second. Having accepted God's terms in the first imperative by being faithful and submissive you receives the three promises of the second imperative. God said (a) He would bless those who blessed you, (b) curse those who treated you lightly or despised you, and (c) bless the families of the world, nation, state, county, city, and Church through you.

Think on these things before you become a candidate for a Congress Officer. You are entering into a covenant with the Lord to serve His people. You are not in charge God is and sometimes the people's request will appear to be unreasonable. Remember your commitment is to put God's work first in

your life. To begin with each prospect officer MUST submit a letter of INTENT run and COMMITMENT to carry out the mission in accordance with their office. This letter should be sent to the Chairman of the Nominations Committee on or before June 1, 2002. Rev. Dr. David Forbes, Past of the Christian Faith Baptist Church Raleigh, NC is the Chair, and the members are two Past Presidents, Mrs. Elizabeth Young and Mrs. Hazel McLean. Letters may be sent to the Convention Headquarters addressed to Congress Nominations c/o Dr. Forbes.

A Christian Education Moment for Our YOUTH and Young-at-Heart---Quiz Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President, Congress of Christian Education.

Leadership

1. Who selected Moses and where?
Exodus 3:1,10
2. What was Moses' prayer?
Numbers 27:15-19
3. Why did the Lord pick Israel's kings?
Deuteronomy 17:15
4. What was Solomon's request from the Lord?
I Kings 3:9
5. What did the Lord reveal to Jeremiah?
Jeremiah 1:4-5
6. What prevented Nehemiah from following in his predecessor's footsteps?
Nehemiah 5:15
7. How did the Lord describe David?
Psalm 89:19-21
8. How did Jesus express his humility?
John 13:3-5
9. Who is being described in this passage
Colossians 1:14-18
10. What did Paul recommend to Titus?
Titus 2:7-8



(Pictured from left to right)
Deacon Reginald Holly and Pastor William Head of FMBC Smithfield, Terence Garner and Rev. Dr. J.B. Woodhouse, Moderator Tar River Association/Pastor Red Oak Baptist Church

Free At Last



Daily Record Photo/Jon Sales

Terence Garner embraces his mother Linda Chambers in the lobby of the Johnston County courthouse in Smithfield Tuesday morning. He is flanked on the right by Terence Garner Justice Coalition co-chair Rev. William Head. Co-chair Deacon Reggie Holly is on the left, partially obscured by a camera.

After 4 Years In Prison, Garner Goes Home

Classified

Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church is seeking applications for pastoral vacancy. Application must possess the following qualifications:

- Must be experienced, licensed and ordained missionary Baptist minister, living according 1st Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
- Must be able to develop and share a vision for the future growth and development for the church.
- Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and with all auxiliaries of the church.
- Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
- Must be community oriented.
- Must possess strong and proven administrative experience, with a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies, and practices.
- Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.
- Must be willing to work with the New Bern Eastern Missionary Baptist Association.
- Education: Possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in seminary training, and willing to further study.
- Interested applicants should provide the following:
 1. A resume of relevant experience.
 2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination.
 3. One business and two personal reference (no family members).
- All interested applicants should send resume, and copies of certificates to:

Chairmen Deacon Mayor B. Credle
For Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5972 N.C. Hwy. 304, Bayboro, N.C. 28515

Pulpit Vacancy

- The pulpit committee of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants should possess the following qualifications:
- Must be a born-again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called minister with strong family and community values.
 - Must be a licensed Missionary Baptist minister.
 - Must be able to preach and teach Bible study.
 - Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures.
 - Must have experience as a senior or associate pastor.
 - Must be able to administer communion, perform baptisms, weddings and funerals.
 - Must possess strong and proven administrative skills and experience.
 - Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups.
 - Must be a just and fair individual and possess tact.
 - College degree is preferred but will consider any combination of education and pastoral experience.
 - Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church.
 - Resumes should be sent to:

The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chair
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909
elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301

The pastor's search committee of Savannah Missionary Baptist is accepting letter of interest/resumes for the position of Senior Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist ministers. Apply only if you are sincerely interested and meet all the qualifications.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be **Born** again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach the word.
- Must be **firmly oriented** and possess a strong, Godly character.
- Prefer **college degree** but will strongly consider a combination of education, training and experience.
- Possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
- Be an **effective leader**, communicator, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
- Must have **skills required** to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
- Must have **skills required** for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the church.
- Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees.
- Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:
 - Letter of interest or resume
 - Copy of license and ordination certificate
 - Proof of educational degree, and additional theological studies transcript
 - The names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.
- The committee will provide each candidate with an information packet.
- All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Savannah Missionary Baptist Church
ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker, 6675 Tabor Church Road, Fayetteville, N.C.

Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton

is searching for a pastor. Congregational size is about 100 members with attendance of 50-65 depending upon the season. Worship service is held twice monthly. We are a small rural church located about 5 miles east of Clayton and about 6 miles west of Smithfield on Hwy. 70 business. Our congregation represents all ages and all backgrounds.

Our pastor must be knowledgeable and believe in the Baptist Doctrine. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher. One who will proclaim the Good News in a meaningful way that will help members learn to apply Biblical concepts to their everyday lives.

We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and its auxiliaries and the General Baptist State Convention and its auxiliaries.

Please include in your resume the following:

1. Name/Address/Day and Evening Phone Numbers
2. Age
3. Marital Status
4. Education/Schools Attended
5. Pastoral Experience (Where, When, Number, of Years)
6. References

Qualifications:

1. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
2. Possess Leadership, Administrative, and Counseling Skills
3. Willingness to follow Baptist Doctrines, Policies and Procedures
4. Able to lead and communicate with all age groups
5. Family oriented
6. Must possess good moral and ethical conduct

Interested persons should send resumes to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church, Pulpit Search Committee
Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson, PO Box 2435, Smithfield, NC 27577

NEEDED - PASTOR

The Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church of Elizabeth City, North Carolina announces a pastoral vacancy and is accepting resumes from ordained Baptist Ministers with strong Baptist roots.

We prefer that the pastoral candidates possess the following qualifications:

- a. Born Again Christian, spirit filled, and divinely called minister with strong family and community values
- b. Must be a Missionary baptist
- c. Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine, church policies and procedures
- d. Seminary Training preferred
- e. Ability to Teach Bible Study
- f. Responsibilities will be in accordance with the bylaws of the church

Salary: Negotiable

Send information to:

Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Committee
P.O. Box 1421
Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1421

ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GOLDSBORO, N.C., INC.

601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530 o (919) 735-2176

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, with a membership of approximately 200 members, is seeking a full-time pastor.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Plan and lead worship that is sensitive to the needs of the congregation
2. Attend to the spiritual development of the congregation
3. Provide administrative leadership to the congregation, secretarial and pulpit staff
4. Counsel members having personal, family and/or work related problems
5. Support religious programs for children, youth, and adult
6. Develop and instruct weekly Bible Study Classes and directing the Bible Study and Sunday School Staffs.
7. Support the church's financial program
8. Involve the congregation in the existing church programs and ministers
9. Meet regularly with the chairperson of the Deacon, Deaconess, Trustee Board and other Auxiliaries of the church
10. Visit the sick, shut in and bereaved in the hospital and at home
11. Preside at funerals and weddings unless the families have someone else of their own choosing
12. Support the World Mission of the church
13. Share in the civic-leadership of the community

QUALIFICATIONS-EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

SAVED AND FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT and able to proclaim the unadulterated word of God that will lead people to Christ. Degree in Theology. Religion preferred. Ordained and at least (5) years experience as a pastor of a MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Interested candidates should send a resume with a cover letter to:

Pulpit Committee, c/o Kirby L. Hamilton, Chairman
Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Goldsboro, Inc.,
601 West Elm Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530
P.S. Please include a copy of your credentials (Ordination Certificate and License)

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH

Greenevers, N.C.

The First Baptist Charity Church of Greenevers, N.C. is accepting resumes from interested Missionary Baptist Ministers for the position of pastor.

Qualifications:

1. Divinely called spirit-filled, born-again Christian with strong Family values.
2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.
5. Must be able to preach and teach.
6. Must have good leadership and communication skills.
7. Family oriented.
8. Have knowledge of and willing to follow Baptist doctrines, policies and procedures.
9. Must be willing to visit and commune with the sick and shut-ins.
10. Must be willing to work with all age groups.

Services are first, second, third, and fourth Sundays with Sunday school beginning at 10:00 a.m. and morning service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Please send resumes to:

Deacon Fernald Rawls, Jr., 920 Pasture Branch Road, Rose Hill, NC 28458

2. Pastoral experiences is required.
3. Must work closely with the officers of the church.
4. Must have at least 2 years of college or seminary training.

Senior Pastor to provide pastoral leadership and duties to a historical and traditional Missionary Baptist Church located in Greensboro North Carolina.

Organization:

Shiloh Baptist Church, 1210 South Eugene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina

Shiloh Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking to identify a righteous individual of God's choosing to minister the people. Shiloh members require that the person called to minister and person at Shiloh will preach, teach and God's Word. The members require that the person exemplify Christ like character in his daily living, be honest, of high integrity, compassionate and loving in caring for others. Shiloh members require that the person has a spiritual commitment to the Body of Christ and is knowledgeable and versed in the instruction of Biblical Scriptures.

Qualifications:

- o Four Year College or University Degree and Seminary Degree.
- o Ordained minister rooted in traditional Missionary Baptist Doctrine.
- o Minimum of Five to Ten Years of Pastoral experiences preferred.
- o Proves and administrative skills.
- o Consensus builder.
- o Spiritual mature.
- o Family Oriented.

Contact Information:

Please submit by February 10, 2002, a letter of interest, Biographical Sketch and Resume to:

Shiloh Baptist Church

Attn: Steve Allen, Pulpit Committee Chair

P.O. Box 20048

Greensboro, NC 27420

MOUNT PLEASANT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 115

Harrellsville, NC 27942

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church located in Hertford County, NC is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Our worship services are each Sunday of the month.

Qualifications:

- o Must be a born again Christian
- o Must be a licensed and ordained Baptist Minister
- o Must have at least 5 or more years of experience as Pastor/Assistant Pastor
- o Must have a knowledge of Biblical Doctrine of the Holy Scriptures
- o Must have a vision for the church
- o Should possess administrative skills
- o Must have at least a High School education and Bible training
- o Must be able to teach as well as preach
- o Must be able to serve every Sunday

All interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of certificate of license and ordination
3. Two letters of references. Please do not use a relative.

Send information to:

Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church

Pastoral Search Committee

Attn: Deacon Eugene White

815 Swains Mill Rd.

Harrellsville, NC 27942

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is accepting resumes for its vacant pulpit. Qualifications include but are not limited to the following:

1. Called by God.
2. Preachers, teachers, and lives according to the New Testament.
3. Adheres to the tenets of the missionary Baptist Church.
4. Is able to work cooperatively with church officers and members.
5. Has a plan for the spiritual and physical growth of the church.
6. Lives within a reasonable distance from the church.

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church is a small rural church that has services every Sunday. We seek a sincere, dedicated, humble, honest Christian minister as our shepherd. Please send your resume to the following address:

Mr. Richard Moore, Chairman

The Pulpit Committee

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church, 4462 North Carolina Hwy. 801 North Mocksville, North Carolina 27028 o Telephone: (336) 998-3362

Notice:

**Pastor needed at Star of Zion Church,
New Bern, N.C. 28562.**

Submit application to:

Pastor Selection Committee

2101 Chestnut Ave.

New Bern, N.C. 28562

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Warrenton, North Carolina

The Union Grove Baptist is currently seeking and accepting resumes from interested, licensed, ordained Baptist ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, but will consider years of experience as associate pastor
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Must be able to work with various age groups with specific emphasis on youth development
5. Strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
6. Good oral and written communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups
7. Have excellent teaching ability

Other responsibilities include:

Planning, organizing, and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that provide church growth and programs

Please send resume to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairmen, Route 2, Box 128, Norlina, N.C. 27563, % The Pulpit Committee

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

PO Box 644/601 Pine Street, Oakboro, NC 28129

The Pastoral Search Committee Galilee Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes to fill its Pastoral vacancy. The minimum qualifications are desired for consideration:

- ordained Baptist minister
- be able to work well with church, promoting Church agenda
- teach and preach competently
- possess high spiritual, moral and ethical integrity
- possess strong knowledge of the Scriptures
- visit sick and active in community.
- active in Zion Association
- seminary training preferred and willing to advance studies
- attend church ministry functions
- coordinate and develop ministries to accommodate growing church

We have church services every Sunday (including 5th). We are looking for a pastor, not someone who only desires to preach. If interested please send resumes to: Deacon James Ashcraft, PO Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

Qualifications

- 1. Born Again Christian
- 2. Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- 3. Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- 4. Seminary Training preferred
- 5. Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- 6. Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- 7. Pastoral Experience Preferred
- 8. Family Oriented
- 9. Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs
- 10. Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:
Pastoral Search Committee
First Baptist Church
ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman
P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

First Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist Ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- 1. Spiritual maturity
- 2. A degree from an accredited college and seminary
- 3. Administrative and leadership skills
- 4. Community oriented
- 5. Must be able to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the youth
- 6. Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
- 7. Good oral and written communications skills and ability to communicate with all age groups
- 8. A minimum of 5 years experience as senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
- 9. Must be willing to attend Sunday School

Responsibilities include:

Plan and implementation of innovative religious programs, activities, and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Please send resumes to:

Tanya M. Autry, Chair
The Pastoral Search Committee, First Missionary Baptist Church
103 Church Street, Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, N.C. is searching for applicants for its personal vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the third Sunday.

Qualifications:

- 1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
- 2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
- 3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
- 4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
- 5. Must be community oriented
- 6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education
Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

- 1. A resume of relevant experience.
- 2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street, Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor. Mail resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- 1. Born again Christian
- 2. Must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- 3. Preach quality sermons
- 4. Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies, and practices
- 5. Able to lead and communicate with all ages groups
- 6. Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- 7. Some colleges and seminary training preferred

**NOTICE
PASTOR NEEDED**

At
Friendship Baptist Church
Whiteville, NC

For Application Write:
Pastor Selection Committee
PO Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

**ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
is looking for a Pastor**

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee
St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983

PHILLIPS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Philips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, NC, is currently seeking a senior pastor, spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume no later than December 2001.

The successful candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- Must be born again, spirit filled, divinely called minister with strong family and community values
- Must possess the willingness to follow by the By-Laws governing the church
- Must have a knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures and be willing to follow such
- Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister
- Must have significant experience as a Senior Pastor
- Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Religion, Theology, or Divinity from an accredited college, university or divinity school.
- Must be willing to work with all age groups with particular interest in the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
- Must be able to develop and share a vision for the future growth and development for the church.
- Must visit and commune with the sick, shut-in and bereaved families

All applicants must provide the following information:

- Copy of college degree(s), certificates of license or ordination
- Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training

Name, address and telephone number of (4) personal and professional reference with no more than (2) coming from other ministries

All materials should be forwarded to:

Dr. Ernie Wade
Chairman, Pulpit Committee
Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
132 N. Glen Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC 27105

**POSITION: SENIOR PASTOR/FULL-TIME
START DATE: IMMEDIATE**

The Ebenezer Baptist Church search committee is hereby accepting resumes for the position of Senior Pastor. The candidate must be a licensed/ ordained Baptist Minister.

We respectfully request that you only apply if you are sincerely interested and meet all qualifications. Requirements/Qualifications:

- 1. Must be called by God, born again and filled with the holy spirit to preach and teach the word of God.
- 2. Ordained Minister with preferred pastoral experience of 3-5 years with a minimum of a bachelors degree in theology from a School of Divinity. Furnished copy of license and ordination certificate.
- 3. Possess a strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, policies, and practices. (The Covenant and Code of Ethics)
- 4. Possess good moral and ethical conduct according to 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:7-9 and abstain from such activities and inclinations as those cited in Romans 1:26-27.
- 5. Be an effective leader, communicator, administrator, and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
- 6. Must have skills required to work with all age groups with an emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
- 7. Have skills required for planning and implementing a vision for both spiritual and physical growth of the Church.
- 8. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries, and committees.

The Committee will provide each candidate with an information packet. All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Ebenezer Baptist Church
Attn: Deacon Milton Buxton/Confidential P.O. Box 248
Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

The Center Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC is currently seeking a "Minister of Music" who is able to work well with a diverse group of singers including youth. Must be able to play keyboard, piano, and organ. Must be dependable and have good moral character. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to Center Baptist Church, Attention: Personnel Committee, POB 550064, Gastonia, NC. 28055 or fax cover letter and resume to Personnel Committee at 704-824-7683.

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

ANNOUNCEMENT Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music, Loyal and Committed to God's program. Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention: Trustees
Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913 N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C., is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician. **REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Able to play organ and/or piano.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible. **SALARY NEGOTIABLE:**

Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Inquiries may be made by calling (252) 357-1061 after 4:30 p.m.

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C., is seeking a person to .. serve as Church Musician. Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation. Musician requirements: *Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections. *Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services. *Be available to accompany the pastor and choir to all church functions when requested. Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave., High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church are accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
 - Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
 - Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
 - Be available to accompany the pastor and choir to all church functions when requested.
- Salary negotiable:

Pastoral Vacancy

Mitchener Memorial Baptist Church is searching for a Pastor. We are located in Smithfield, North Carolina and have about 75 members. Worship Service is held each Sunday. We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated and their respective auxiliaries.

We are looking for pastoral candidates with the following qualifications:

- a. Must be a born-again Christian.
- b. Must be an ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- c. Must be knowledgeable of and believe in Baptist doctrine.
- d. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher.
- e. Must have a minimum of three years of experience as a pastor or as assistant pastor or associate pastor.
- f. Must be High School graduate or equivalent.
- g. Seminary Graduate required.
- h. Prefer person that is married and family oriented.
- i. Must be willing to teach Bible study.
- j. Must be able to preach spiritual sermons.
- k. Must be able to counsel and visit members.
- l. Must have good morals and ethical conduct.

Interested persons should send resumes and a minimum of 3-5 references to:
Mitchener Memorial Baptist Church Pulpit Search Committee C/o Deacon Nathaniel L. Sanders, Jr.
308 Snead Drive Clayton, North Carolina 27520

MUSICIAN NEEDED GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday. Prepare Choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship. Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times. Be available to accompany Pastor and choir to church functions. Direct congregation in congregational hymns Must be able to play by ear as well as read music.

To Apply Call:
(704) 532-6813 or E-mail to GalileeNC@aol.com
Church is located in Stanly County (40 minutes east of Charlotte)

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, N.C. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015, Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, N.C. is currently seeking a **MINISTER OF MUSIC.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be a born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choir when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 am. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 am. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

Pulpit Vacancy Union Missionary Baptist Church 5090 Richlands Highway Jacksonville NC 28540

Union Missionary Baptist Church is now accepting resumes for a Pastor. Our worship services are each Sunday of the month.

Qualifications:

Must be a licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister

- Full of the Holy Ghost, led by the Spirit of God in all matters.
- Full of wisdom, knowledge and understands the office of Pastor, and performs it according to the scriptures and the needs of the church

The husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality and able to teach.

- Not given to wine, no filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; one that rules his own house, having his children in subjection, and having good report.
- Know the doctrine of a Missionary Baptist Church.
- Know and be familiar with T.R.O.G.A. (Trent River Oakley Grove Association) and take an active part in the different activities of the Association.
- Must attend meetings of different auxiliaries in the church to become familiar with those organizations and their activities, whenever possible.
- Must visit the sick and shut-in when possible.
- Must attempt to become involved with the various programs that the church participates in outside of the home church

Send resumes to the above address

NEED A FILL-IN OR AN INTERIM PASTOR?

Qualified, Experienced, Healthy and available for service. Call or write:

REV MELVIN W. GATTIS
3907 Bivins Road
Hillsborough, NC 27278

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292 Needed: Minister of Music or Organist. Please send resume to: Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave, Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas. O call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, 'a Christian who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
 - *Experienced in all sacred music *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear
- Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214, Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 - Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

**135TH YEAR CELEBRATION
MID-YEAR ANNUAL SESSION
GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION
REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM**

DR. JOHN D. FULLER, SR., PRESIDENT GBSC DR. ARCHIE D. LOGAN, JR., EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TREASURER

MAY 8 - 9, 2002

Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1075 Shallmar Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27107
Dr. John Mendez, Pastor

CHURCH _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

PASTOR _____

ASSOCIATION _____

PHONE NUMBER CHURCH () _____ PHONE NUMBER PASTOR () _____

YOUR NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

YOUR PHONE () _____

PERSONAL REGISTRATION \$10.00 PER PERSON
NUMBER OF MESSENGERS _____ @ 10.00 EACH AMOUNT \$ _____

CHURCH REPRESENTATION \$500.00
GBSC MID-YEAR ANNUAL SESSION AMOUNT \$ _____

PLEASE SEND YOUR REGISTRATION/REPRESENTATION FORM TO:
BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS
GBSC
603 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27601-2338
800-639-GBSC (4272) - 919/821-7466

MASTER CARD / VISA

**HEADQUARTERS HOTELS
ADAMS MARK
425 N. CHERRY STREET
WINSTON-SALEM, NC
\$88.00 + TAX
336-725-3500**

REGISTRATON AND REPRESENTATION FORM

ANNUAL STATEWIDE EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

DR. JOHN D. FULLER, SR., PRESIDENT DR. ARCHIE D. LOGAN, JR., EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TREASURER
DR. H.C. MILLER, EVANGELISM CHAIRMAN

APRIL 15 - 18, 2002

WATTS CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH, TRYON ROAD, RALEIGH, NC

CHURCH _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

PASTOR _____

ASSOCIATION _____

PHONE NUMBER CHURCH () _____ PHONE NUMBER PASTOR () _____

YOUR NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

YOUR PHONE () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

WEBSITE _____

PERSONAL REGISTRATION \$15.00 PER PERSON
NUMBER OF MESSENGERS _____ @ \$15.00 EACH AMOUNT \$ _____

CHURCH REPRESENTATION \$100.00 FOR THE YEAR AMOUNT \$ _____

PLEASE SEND YOUR REGISTRATION/REPRESENTATION FORM TO:
BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS
EVANGELISM CONFERENCE
603 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27601-2338
800-639-GBSC (4272) - 919/821-7466

MASTER CARD or VISA

**HOTEL: SHERATON CAPITAL CENTER
421 SOUTH SALISBURY STREET, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27601
919-821-7466
\$89.00 + TAX DEADLINE APRIL 2, 2002**

General Baptist State Convention

MUSIC CONFERENCE

REGISTRATON AND REPRESENTATION FORM

DR. JOHN D. FULLER, SR., PRESIDENT GBSC DR. ARCHIE D. LOGAN, JR., EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TREASURER
MRS. OCTAVIA IVORY, MUSIC CONFERENCE COORDINATORS

APRIL 25 - 27, 2002

ST. LUKE BAPTIST CHURCH, MOREHEAD CITY, NC
REVEREND S. BARROW III, PASTOR

CHURCH _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

PASTOR _____

ASSOCIATION _____

PHONE NUMBER CHURCH () _____ PHONE NUMBER PASTOR () _____

YOUR NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

YOUR PHONE () _____ WEBSITE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PERSONAL REGISTRATION \$30.00 PER PERSON
NUMBER OF MESSENGERS _____ @ 30.00 EACH AMOUNT \$ _____

CHURCH REPRESENTATION \$100.00
GBSC MUSIC CONFERENCE AMOUNT \$ _____

PLEASE SEND YOUR REGISTRATION/REPRESENTATION FORM TO:
BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS
GBSC ANNUAL SESSION
603 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27601-2338
800-639-GBSC (4272) - 919/821-7466

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CRYSTAL COAST RESORT
109 SALTER PATH ROAD
ATLANTIC BEACH, NC 28512
SINGLES & DOUBLES - \$45.00 + 11.5% TAX
252-726-2544, 1-800-733-7888
RESERVATION DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2002**

Lott Carey

Baptist Foreign Mission Convention

Youth Seminar 2002

Individual Registration Form

(Each participant should complete this form and the youth leader should mail it along with the group registration form)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____

E-Mail Address _____

Check Applicable items:

Youth Male _____ Adult Chaperon (Male) _____ Junior Chaperon (Male) _____
Youth Female _____ Adult Chaperon (Female) _____ Junior Chaperon (Female) _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Grade in School/Profession _____

Name of Church _____

Church's City _____

Church's State _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____

E-Mail _____

Signature of participant _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if under 18) _____

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Baptist Informer

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Baptist Informer

Volume 125, No. 5

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

May 2002

The Devil and Demonic Spirits



Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

"The gates of hell shall not prevail"

Matthew 16:18

by Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ and Peace Be Unto each of you! As I travel across the State meeting and talking with Pastors, Moderators, officers, leaders and members of the faith community a common theme has emerged the last year: The devil and demonic spirits have raised their heads against the Church" Jesus says in Matthew 16:18: "... on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (KJV) Evil, the devil and demonic spirits are just as real today as they were in the Old Testament times of Adam/Eve and Jesus Christ in the New Testament.

Although we are in a new millennium we still face adversity, pain and suffering as people of God. The Bible reminds us that we will NOT be defeated. The work of the church will continue.

Jesus was with his disciples at the coasts of Cesarea Philippi, on the far north borders of the land of Canaan when he talks about the power of Satan and all his followers. We must accept the fact that the devil does have a crowd; however, Christ promises that Satan will not defeat us or the church. In this passage Jesus gave the promise of the indestructibility of the church and protection for all who believe in Him. When we chose Christ we become apart of Kingdom Building.

The gates of hell were mentioned by Jesus to remind the disciples of the machinations and powers of the invisible world. In ancient times the gates of fortified cities were used to hold councils in, and were usually places of great strength. Our Lord's expression means, that neither the plots, stratagems, nor strength of Satan and his angels, would ever prevail as to destroy the sacred truths of God in Christ Jesus.

Evil Today

In every church, wherever we turn in the world the devil and demonic forces are attacking our work. I struggle daily seeking stew-

ardship support for the work of the GBSC, Inc. Many churches have not met their suggested stewardship quotas, we have obligations to our "objectives": Shaw University, Shaw University Divinity School, Lott Carey, Central Children's Home and State Missions. We need your sup-

port to fight evil.

If each church would send your stewardship support the Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338 monthly we would not have trouble

The Devil continued on Page 26

Mothers of the Church

By Archie D. Logan, Jr.

May is the month that we set aside to honor *MOTHERS* in special ways. I would like to remember my beloved mother one more time Eneshel Margaret Roberson Logan. Her spirit will live in my life forever. She loved the Lord, her family, her work and the calling God placed upon her life. Mother is the female

parent of a household. In the religious family, the mother occupied a position of honor. In the African-American culture even women who did not bear children were seen as "mothers." The entire community was family and raised children. The term "Mother" also is a part of the Christian Family. In churches today there are senior and older women

Mothers continued on page 2

Anniversary Celebration



Lillington First Baptist Singers of Lillington, NC celebrate their 14th anniversary. Reverend Shane Matthews is the pastor.

Celebrating 135 Years: 1867 - 2002

A Brave New World, Inc.: A Call For World Peace

By Don Hooper & Yvonne Cubby-Duke

Corresponding Editors

"And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth. And hath determined the times before appointed and the bounds of their habitation".

Acts 17:26

This scripture reveals even though we dwell in different places, are of different nations, different races, different cultures and different ethnicities; we are one.

In the turbulent times we are currently living in, we are seeking answers to many questions. One question is how can we promote peace? Another question is, is there really justice and fairness in the world? An Organization, which is focusing its energy on these issues, is A Brave New World Inc.

In October of 2001, one man stopped contemplating these issues and decided to live his vision. Thus, A Brave New World was born. **A Brave New World Inc.** embodies this

scripture through its goals and missions.

A Brave New World is an International Council for Justice and Fairness. It is a nonprofit, apolitical and non-church affiliated organization.

A Brave New World Inc. prides itself on being a global civil rights pioneer. The concept is that civil rights are not an exclusive right, therefore it is a right due to all people.

Founder, CEO and Chairman of the Board Arthur L. Carter the III launched www.abravenewworldinc.org in 2001. The web-site consists of the organization's Mission Statement, Goals, Vision, related links and contact information.

Mr. Carter recognized that one individual alone is not as powerful as a team. As a result of this, A Brave New World's Council was formed. The council consists of eleven committed and dedication executive staff members who share the vision of a Brave New World, which is the hope of a better tomorrow. The council is a small team of individuals who

desire to change the world, as we now know it. The council serves as promoters of a global community.

A Brave New World Inc. serves as vehicle for change. The organization's vision is that all nations will unite and work on human rights while addressing issues like religious separation. As a global human rights pioneer, A Brave New World is dedicating itself to serving as a peace keeping model for successive generations. Through their collective efforts they desire to bring hope, equality and justice for all people.

A Brave New World's mission is to serve as a global civil rights organization, assisting victims of religious persecution and government corruption, fostering learning and communication and lobbying congressional representatives.

A Brave New World's vision will be accomplished through grant funding, corporate sponsors, and religious community support. Funds will be utilized to sponsor and organize a march in the summer of 2003. The Theme of the March will be "Racial Reconciliation and Atonement". A

Brave New World will conduct "town meeting" forums, symposiums and workshops.

When I asked Mr. Carter "Why he began A Brave New World," I could hear the compassion in his voice as he stated, "This will be my Legacy!"

A Brave New World is the beginning of a new way of life. In these difficult times we need a vision of hope. A Brave New World is providing a path to change. Our ancestors have gone ahead and beckon for us to follow. A Brave New World believes we can collectively fulfill and exceed the dreams and promises of long ago.

A Brave New World invites you to share in and support their vision and to commit to making this world a better place. To obtain additional information or to contact members of the council, please visit the web site:

www.abravenewworldinc.org

A BRAVE NEW WORLD, INC.
Arthur Carter III

ArthurCarterIIICEO@mail2world.com
PO BOX 33406

Washington, DC 20033-0406

Mothers continued from Page 1

who were know as Mothers of the Church.

The concept of mother is found in the Bible. It is used in figurative ways. Nations were sometimes

thought of as mothers. The prophet Ezekiel used mother as a metaphor for Israel. After being nurtured and cared for by their "mother," the "princes of Israel" brought shame upon her by their idolatrous practices

(Ezekiel 19). Jeremiah used the concept of Israel as mother to personify the nation's sin (Jeremiah 50:12-13), while Hosea made it a continuing theme of his prophecies. The word mother was sometimes used to describe large and important cities. The city of Abel of Beth Maachah was called "a mother in Israel" (2 Samuel 20:19). A city was also a mother in terms of its influence. Babylon was called "the mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth" (Revelation 17:5).

The figurative meaning of "mother" also included ancestry. Eve was the "mother of all living" (Genesis 3:20). God blessed Sarah by declaring, "She shall be a mother of nations" (Genesis 17:16). Rebekah was blessed to become "the mother of thousands of ten thousands"

(Genesis 24:60). The love and nurturing of God is sometimes compared to the love and caring a mother gives to a newborn child. Paul referred to new Christians as "babes in Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:1), implying a connection to Jesus and God as mother as well as father (1 Thessalonians 2:7).

For the GBSC, Inc. Family "Mother" means and symbolizes love: The love of God, the love of family, the love of church, the love of community, the love of life. We give tribute to our beloved mothers: those of the past, present and future. If you are unsaved, outside the "ark of safety" make your mother rejoice - GIVE YOUR LIFE TO JESUS CHRIST this month. Accept-Believe-Confess Jesus as Lord of your life! (see Romans 10).

The Baptist Informer

The Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

President's News

Questions and Answers

By

Reverend Dennis Leach BS. N. Div.,

At the end of last year the Director of Christian Education at Lewis Baptist Church, Jenifer Campbell polled the congregation concerning questions they would want to have addressed from the Bible. As you would have guessed those questions were numerous, and some dealt with very socially sensitive issues. I was asked to sit on a panel that looked at, and addressed the issue of divorce from various perspectives. I was allotted fifteen minutes to do my best, what follows is what I presented during that session.

I would like to begin with a disclaimer: Remember, we are looking back over the expanse of nearly two thousand years, and longer in some cases trying to ascertain the truest meaning of a particular biblical text that was originally written in Hebrew, greek, or Arabic. In doing so, we often an injustice, and disservice to the Bible and those we teach or preach to, when we take it out of context, by not considering the historical, social, and religious influences that went into its shaping, and perhaps some of the lost meaning in the translation. In addition, as Dr. Edward Wimberly, my professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling used to say, we do bring something to the text, our beliefs, our circumstances, and our experiences.

1. My first question seeks a discussion on I Corinthians 7:12 (God does not say this, it is Paul). Please explain!

Paul was writing to a sharply divided church, on many issues. Some of those issues he's heard about, others they have written him about. In chapter seven Paul is addressing something they have written him about, marital relationships.

They had some questions like all of you have. You had either ascetics on both sides of the response, or those of libertine persuasion. Paul recognizes that although he is a spiritual man called by God, everything that he says does not come from God, or the Lord. And, like most of us he had his own opinion, based on and influenced by his circumstances. Paul, unlike others of his day and certainly since then, is ever careful not to invoke the authority of Jesus for what he feels is an expression of his own personal point of view. This is a good practice for all Christians to follow. Too often the authority of the Master or of the Holy Spirit is claimed for what turns out to be no more than private opinion or even prejudice.

Those kinds of pronouncements are understandable, however they may not turn out to be very Christian, and I would say that especially holds true if its condemnation without redemption, or puts you in spiritual, emotional, or psychological bondage.

2. Divorce happens as a result of sin committed by one or both parties and leads to pain and suffering for both before and after. Is it possible that divorce may be in the will of God, not his perfect will, but his permissive will such as that pain and suffering may be diminished?

I do not agree with the premise of this particular question, because I believe the causes of divorce can be more complex, and placing them under the cover-all umbrella of sin may not take into account all the relational particulars, however I will attempt to address the second portion of it.

Ezra's reform: after returning from the exile under the Babylonian's, the remnant sought to reform itself under, and according to the Mosaic Law. They took some very drastic measures all in the name

of the Lord, their God. Believing it to be God's Commandment many of them divorced their wives who they had married while in captivity, and sent them and their children back home. (Ezra 10:2,3). They believed they had been, and would continue to suffer for their sins; and one of those sins was seen as getting married outside the will of God to these foreign wives.

When Moses gave the Hebrews, or Israelites the Commandments, statutes, and ordinances he said God charged him to teach and observe them in the land that they were about to cross over into (Deuteronomy 6:1,2). If you believe this is true then one of these laws concerns the matter of divorce (Deuteronomy 24:1-4). J. H. Shackelford writes: "In spite of the pain, divorce had the potential to stimulate growth and to become a creative source for personal assessment, and redirection."

3. How does the issue of remarriage affect the African culture? (Multiple marriages).

I heard Bishop Charles Adams say at a conference on the Spiritual State of Black America, "that we have damaged by assimilation."

In some instances the appropriation and application of biblical text hermeneutically by some has been to take a hard sociological culture line. Denying others what makes them they are socially, and culturally. But in other instances some have chosen a culturally sensitive approach that does not require the convert to become legally a Hebrew, Jew, or Westernized Europeanized Christian in religious practices.

4. If I am not mistaken, I thought it was said that God is involved in or approves of all marriages. If this is so, please explain the scripture that talks about:

"not being equally yoked."



Dr. John D. Fuller, President

(Corinthians 6:14)

Ralph Earle writing in his book: Word meanings in the New Testament says: Unequally Yoked Together, the Greek word heterozygeo (only here in NT), literally means, "to come under an unequal or different yoke." Here it is used metaphorically in the sense "to have fellowship with one who is not an equal."

Throughout its history the church has always wrestled with the issue of divorce, and remarriage whether it was seen as in-dissoluble, or dissoluble. The early church fathers took the position of in-disonvability. Later, however, by the sixth century the Eastern church had developed a tradition of allowing divorce with thee right to remarriage for a variety of causes, and the Eastern Orthodox tradition today has introduced the concept of the "moral death" of a marriage. In the Roman Catholic tradition marriage was viewed as a sacrament, which made it sacred, so those who divorced and were re-married were excommunicated from the Church.

The continental Reformers sought to return to a more biblical understanding of the nature of marriage. They rejected the elevation of marriage to the status of sacrament, and they disagreed with the absolute indissolubility of marriage They believed that some parts of the NT allowed divorce

Q & A Continued on Page 22

Women's Convention News



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

During this month we pause to

An Ideal Mother

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Brodie

celebrate motherhood, to honor mothers, to honor The Creator's Way for bringing life into the world. The Creator honored motherhood majestically when He sent His Son (Jesus) in flesh through the birth canal of Woman.

In Proverbs 31 we see the description of an ideal mother. Let us consider verse 28: "Her children arise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her." Perhaps we ask, "Why do her children and husband speak well of her? What does she do and who is she?" When we read God's Effective Communication, His Word, The Holy Bible, we find the ideal answers. This mother is not exalting herself, trying to make a name for herself, walking over her family/people, putting down her family/people, discrediting her family/people, nor annihilating her family/people. Rather does her life just seem to exude, overflow from her as a well of living water. Or better still Someone seems to be directing/ordering her life, her choices, her steps, her relationship, her thoughts, her attitude, her life style. Her life is not self-sustained. She is not self-made, but God-Made. She seeks to live her life With God, not

apart from God. (Should not all mothers seek to live their lives with Christ, in Christ, and Christ in them?)

Among her characteristics we see that she is very valuable, precious (beyond the value of rubies); she is reliable (not deceptive). She loves and respects her husband; she is hard-working; she is economical; she is self-sacrificing; she is adventurous; she is a woman of strength; she is compassionate/merciful; she prepares for the future; she is persevering; she speaks words of wisdom and kindness; she seeks excellent not mediocre standards. One of the last given virtues is that she is a God-fearing woman. This statement explains the reasons her and her work/ministry, fruit of her hands, to her family/people.

Yes, this is an ideal mother, and it may be no mother is ideal in all she does or says, but God is not through with then yet. However, Christian mothers are new creatures in Christ



Julius McDonald
President of WBH & FMC

and they are to crucify the lusts of the flesh daily. God desires and give the best to "His" mothers, and they must receive Him through Jesus in truth and obedience.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!

Ideal Mother Cont from Page 4
Ideal Mother Continued on Page 2

THE NEHEMIAH PRAYER CHAIN

of the
Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention
North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC

(Enlistment Form)

"The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord; but the prayer of the upright is his delight."
(Proverbs 15:8)

"Confess your faults to one another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."
(James 5:16)

Name _____
(Organization or Individual)
Mailing Address _____

Telephone Number _____ E-Mail _____
District _____ Group _____
Department _____
(Senior, Young Adult, or Youth)

Chairperson: Mrs. Robbie Diggs
Co-Chairperson: Mrs. Colene Stanley

(Please return to the Office within seven (7) days)
Woman's State Baptist Convention
P.O. Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602

REMINDERS

1. J.J. Johnson Baptist Ministry

The Woman's Convention has been assured that the Assembly will be open for our Spring and Summer activities. Therefore, regular activities are to occur at the usual times under the auspices of the Holy Spirit.

2. Scholarship Program

Young Adult or youth applying for scholarships should apply on or before May 31, 2002, (see information).

3. The Nehemiah Prayer Chain.

Churches (circles), city/county unions, women auxiliaries, district conferences are urged to participate in this prayer chain for the Woman's Convention. If those mentioned or individuals desire to volunteer for this prayer ministry, please complete the form and return to the Office within seven (7) days (See the form and information regarding this min-

istry).

4. The 22nd Ministers' Wives/Widows' Retreat

is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2002, at the Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill. All ministers' wives/widows are invited. The advance fee for those who plan to come on Saturday is \$18.00. For those who come on Friday and spend the night, the advance fee is \$25.00. For those who come on Friday and spend the night, the on-site fee is \$26.00 (People who spend the night need to bring bed linens and toiletries.) Please pick-up a form at the April Workshop or send to the office for one and return it April 19, 2002. On-site donation is \$20.00 for Saturday only. There will be a class for ministers who accompany their wives. They (husbands) are asked

Reminders: Continued on page 23

Vice President News

From the Desk of the
Fourth Vice-President

Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II - M. Div.



Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II, M.
Div.

The General Baptist "tie" that binds our hearts is Christian love. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in

any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God" (2 Corinthians 1: 3-4, NIV).

What a wonderful thought to know with assurance that God is merciful. God blesses us so that through us, others will be blessed. The writer in Ecclesiastes noted that some things do change. There is a season for "every activity under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:16). Change occurs: from being born to dying ... from planting to uprooting ... from killing to healing ... from tearing down to building up ... from crying to laughing ... from loving to hating ... and so on. Some things do change.

For many who have seen a number of "getting ups and lying downs," dramatic changes have taken place. Many conveniences we take for

granted today were non-existent at the beginning of the 20th century (the year 1900). Change is constant:

- From kerosene lamps to electric lights;
- From the horse-and-buggy to the automobile;
- From the Wright Brothers to supersonic aircraft & the space shuttle;
- From telegraph to cordless and cellular phones;
- Tape recorders, remote controls, microwaves, microchips, microchips, pagers/beepers, voice activation, TV's, VCR's, CD's, DVD's, VCR's, MP3's, PC's, laptops, palm organizers, software, hardware, Tupperware, superstores, condos, stereos, highways, parkways, pornography, cinematography, zoning, cloning, multi-million dollar contracts for entertain-

ers/athletes/CEO's/COO's, ... and the beat goes on!

Some things do change! A time traveler from the early 1900's would not recognize the world as it exists today. And yet, some things do not change. When a woman came to Jesus with an alabaster jar of expensive perfume and poured it on His head (in Matthew 26), Jesus' disciples became angry and complained. They concluded that the perfume could have been sold and the money given to the poor. Jesus replied that the poor would always be around.

Some things do not change! People still need food because they get hungry. People still need com-

*Vice President Continued
on Page 22*

Publisher's Notes

to God Be the Glory!

Thanks to all of you for your feedback regarding the Baptist Informer. I always welcome comments because it is through your feedback that I can continue to grow the paper. I ask that you continue to pray for me that I will make the Baptist Informer the paper you would have it to be.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Each month there will be a question of the month to which I would like you to respond. I am adding this new feature to give you an opportunity to voice your opinion. Submissions must include your name, church, church address and a daytime phone number. Anonymous submissions will not be printed. The question for this month:

HOW EFFECTIVE ARE HIP-

HOP MINISTRIES IN THE CHURCH?

The ever-rising popularity of hip-hop music has begun to make an impact in the Gospel music community. What impact does hip-hop music have in the Church? Is hip-hop music effective in the Church today and how much of a positive effect, if any, does it have on today's youth?

Responses may be mailed to:

Phyllis Coley

**115 Market Street – Suite 211
Durham, NC 27701**

Or emailed to: acoleyevent@msn.com. Please feel free to call me at (919) 956-7673 if you have comments, questions or suggestions.

CHURCH EVENTS

Beginning in June, I will start a Church Events Section. However, I cannot do that unless you send me a listing of your church events. That

would include, but is not limited to, anniversaries (i.e., pastors', church, choir, ushers', etc.), singing programs where no admission is charged, pastor installations, and preaching of trial sermons. This is an example of how the announcement should be submitted:

WHO: ABC Baptist Church, 123 Main Street, Any town, NC 23456

WHAT: Pastor John Doe 15th Anniversary

WHEN: Sunday, July 16, 2002, 6:00 pm

WHERE: at the church

ON THE PROGRAM: (list of participants – NOTE: participants will be listed based on space availability)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Rev. Doe (919) 123-4567

Announcements **MUST** be received by the 10th of the month before the event. Two months before



Phyllis Coley
Publisher

would be ideal. If you want to include a picture of your speaker, please do so. I cannot guarantee that it will be used, but I will make every effort. For programs where admission will be charged, an ad may be purchased and placed in the Church Events section. Since Baptist Informer readers

Publisher's Continued on Page 22

Usher's News

State Usher's News

May is the month we celebrate Mother's Day. Remember your mother on her day. If your mother is deceased, remember some friend's mother with a card, a gift, or flowers. The Lord will bless you for doing this.

Robinson Chapel Baptist Church, Roseboro, North Carolina celebrated their Annual Ushers Anniversary, February 17, 2002, at 3:00 p.m. Sister Ruby Boone is their president. Big Piney Grove Baptist Church, Clinton, North Carolina, rendered service at the J.J. Johnson Assembly Site, Laurinburg, North Carolina in November 2001. His ushers (which I failed to mention), also accompanied Reverend Mitchell and church choir. The ladies dressed in their white uniforms, carried out their duties beautifully. Big Piney Grove ushers, we are proud of you!

Reverend Sister Oletha Troublefield, Mt. Olive, North Carolina is president of the Kenansville Eastern Baptist Association of Ushers and Brother Faison, Vice President. They are doing a survey of their ushers association with 30 plus years of ushering. You will hear more about this when the survey is completed. Keep up the good work President Troublefield and Vice President Faison.

Tupper Memorial Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina, Dr. H.C. Miller, Pastor; your ushers did an outstanding job of ushering at the Sheraton Hotel Ballroom, at the late night service, following the Dr. M.L. King Banquet at the Civic Center on January 8, 2002. Tupper Memorial Baptist Church ushers were on duty, on the floor at 12:00 midnight! Ushers have you ever been on duty at 12:00 midnight? They were, still

smiling and pleasant to everyone. One lady usher, I'm sure she was the president, came outside, carrying an armful of offertory baskets. When asked why, she stated the baskets were being returned to her church, Tupper Memorial Baptist. Dr. Miller, you should be proud of your ushers and commend them for a job well done. For they were dedicated workers for the Lord.

District III Ushers Annual Day was scheduled for March 28, 2002 at 4:00 p.m. at the Mount Hebron Baptist Church, 711 Mt. Hebron Church Road, Gastonia, North Carolina. Reverend Timothy H. Scott, Pastor, will be speaker. Their Theme: "Striving For Success". All ushers were asked to wear their uniforms.

District III Annual Ushers Workshop will be held, Saturday, June 15, 2002 at the Second Calvary

Church, 114 Nelson Avenue, Charlotte, North Carolina. There will be classes for everyone. Time 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Workshop instructors will be: Dr. Haywood T. Greer, Temple Memorial Baptist Church, High Point, North Carolina; Dr. C. Owens, First Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Charlotte, North Carolina; and Sister Eddie A. Culbreth, First Aid, St. Luke Baptist Church. Registration will be \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for youth 17 and under. All ushers are asked to wear their uniforms. Lunch will be served.

District III Ushers are: Ebenezer, Gaston County, Gold Hill, Guildford, Light, Lane Creek, Mecklenburg, General, Mount Peace, Rising Star, and Stanley County. Brother Forney M. Eaves, Jr. is their president and coordinator of District III and is also

State Usher's News Continued on Page 31

The 32nd Annual State-Wide Leaders Workshop of the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention

By Ms. Lucille Griswald Paige

The 32nd Annual State-Wide Leaders Workshop of the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention was held April 6, 2002 at Raleigh Convention Center. Mrs. Audrey P. Battle presided, and Mrs. Cleo Bowden was in charge of the worship and praise. "At the Cross" was the opening hymn. Mrs. Claudine Garrett read the scripture. Mrs. Patricia Russell said the prayer. The theme discussion was by Mrs. Lillian Williams. Solo "His Eye is on the Sparrow" was by Mrs. Carolyn Hines. The President, Mrs. Julias McDonald brought greetings. Dr. Priscilla Broadie gave perspectives from Titus 2 and Psalm 147:1-6.

The workshop session was "Transforming Leaders Through the Ministry of Missions. "Who is a

Missionary" was discussed by Ms. Bettie Adams. "Effective Christian Communication" was discussed by Ms. Blanche Wimberly. "Missionary Leaders" was by Minister Linda Inman. Leading is establishing direction and influencing others to follow that direction. Whether you are an executive or an entry-level worker in your organization, it is critical for you to have strong leadership skills.

Types of leaders are Visionary Leaders, Directional Leaders, Strategic Leaders, Managing Leaders, Shepherding Leaders, and Team Building Leaders. Leaders are hard to find and when you do locate some, they are usually already over committed. Strong leaders are hard to keep. They will be continually enticed with other opportunities that appear to be more exciting and meaningful.

We must create a friendly atmos-

phere. We can show warmth by our demeanor. People want to know whether you are friendly, worried, or how you feel before you start to speak.

We have the following programs in our ministry of missions: Leadership Training Conference, Missionary Institutes, Youth Bible Camp, State-Wide Leaders Workshop, Annual Convention, One Way Session, Family Missions Conference, Young Adult Retreat, and Youth Evangelism Conference. The financial objectives of the Women's Convention are the following: Shaw University and Shaw Divinity Schools, Foreign Missions, State Missions, J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly and Central Children's Home.

There was a question and answer period by Mrs. Bronnie Daniels and the Nehemiah Prayer Chain/ WBH

and FMC by Ms. Robbie Digg. Mrs. Ida Dunston and Ms. Ma Phillips received certificates of recognition for their retirement on the Board.

Music was by the New Zion Baptist Note Choir of Charlotte, North Carolina. The offertory appeal was by Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow.

Reverend Jeremiah Robinson, pastor of Mt. Zion Church, Charlotte, North Carolina was the speaker and his daughter introduced him. Reverend Robinson's subject was "Working Together". The text was from I Corinthians 12: 18-20 and Ephesians 2: 18: 20, 21. Let us work together. Paul talks about the body of Christ as the head. The believer in Christ is seated in Heaven places.

What you are to do because you are in Christ: Stay in your work. *32 Annual Continued on page 23*

Laymen's League News

"Teach and Proclaim The Word"



Romas Hales

By: Romas Hales

The Missionary Training Institute was held March 11, 2002, at New Bethany Baptist Missionary Church, Harrellsville, NC at 7:00pm, nightly. Rev. William C. Clark is the pastor.

Rev. Elbert Lee, Jr. is the moderator; Mrs. Linda Peele is president of the Woman's Auxiliary, and Ms. Della Moore served as Asst. Directress. The Training Institute was divided into four (4) classes.

Mrs. Audrey T. Battle taught the adult class. She is the Second Vice President of the Woman's Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The study book was "Getting Acquainted with the Bible." In addition to the study book, Mrs. Battle shared handouts with the group each night. They included handouts about the Bible, what is the Bible, and what does the Bible say about Jesus, understanding the Gospel, finding out ways around the Bible, The Ten

Commandments and Me. Mrs. Battle asked us the question, "When you read scripture, how do you see Jesus?" She also told us that we should state, "It is my intention to read the Bible so that the Bible gets my attention." We must know what we are about. There were 150 adults registered for the week and fifty-five (55) received certificates for attending at least five (5) nights.

Minister Belinda Smith and Mrs. Terri Cheatham taught the teen class. The teens used the book entitled, "The Bondage Breaker." There were several informal discussions each night including using makeup or

Teach Continued on Page 31

State Laymen Mini Skill Exhibit

By: Romas L. Hales

The time for our State Laymen Mini Skill Exhibit for youth is at hand. If your League is planning to sponsor a participant, please get your application in immediately. A copy of the form is in the Baptist Informer. We will need your participation to make this a successful event. Remember the date is Saturday, May 18, 2002 at the J.J. Johnson Baptist *Mini Skills Continued on Page 23*

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The Bookstore

The Tree That Is Bearing Much Fruit

Greeting in the name Jesus! We are at full bloom as we prepare for our Annual Mid-year session. The GBSC Bookstore will have the material that you will be in need of for your churches Vacation Bible School. We know that time has slipped upon us and you may have forgotten to place your orders. You may do so now. Please call us now if you have a special theme, and would like for us to work with you on an individual basis. We have youth bibles for those youth participating in your vacation bible school. We have waited for many years until they graduate from high school to present them with one as gifts. Studies have shown that we need to give them one as soon as they learn how to read.

We have several other help materials that are available for Pastors, a training manual for associate ministers, a detailed outline of preparing our young ministers for leadership.

We also have The Baptist Standard Church Directory, Busy Pastor Guide, Sermon Preparation Outline, and Great reading material for overcoming stumbling blocks.

INSPIRITATIONAL READING

1. *How You Know That You Know You Are Saved?*
2. *Deacons Training in The Black Church*
3. *What is A Deacon?*
4. *Deaconess on Duty*
5. *The Deaconess Workbook Walking in The Newness Of Life*
6. *How To Live Successful And Debt-Free Program*
7. *Be A Man*

8. *Spiritual Leadership*

9. *Nehemiah*

10. *Resolutions for all Occasions Poems, Addresses, And Responses*

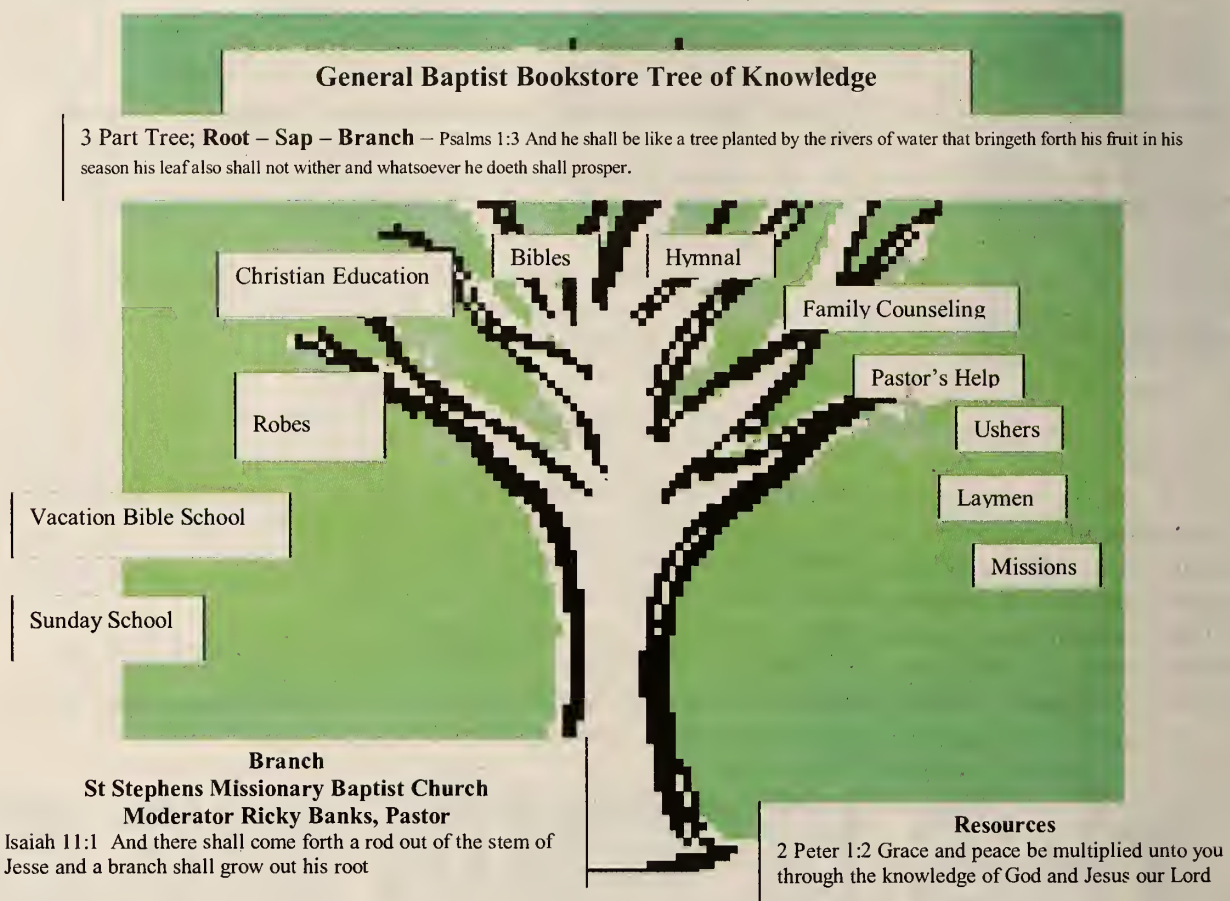
11. *Guides For Ushers*

12. *Suggested Rules & Recommendations for Choirs*

13. *Baptist Hymnals Sheet Music Choir Robes:*

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Moderator Ricky Banks
Pastor.

Those Churches and Associations in the area we encourage you to support the bookstore.

If your Association or Church
The Tree Continued on page 21

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Health and Human Services

Diabetes: Taking Control



Dr. Anita P. Holmes

By Anita P. Holmes, Executive Director
Office of Health and Human Services



Dr. Mary D. Jacobs
Project Coordinator
Faith And Health Initiative
GBSC

Recently, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) warned Americans of the risks of "pre-diabetes," a condition affecting nearly 16 million Americans. This new term "pre-diabetes" describes an increasingly common condition in which blood glucose levels are higher than normal but not yet diabetic - known in medicine as impaired glucose tolerance or impaired fasting glucose. Studies have shown that most people with this condition go on to develop type 2 diabetes within 10 years. This condition also increases the risk for heart disease by 50 percent.

Diabetes is a disease in which blood glucose levels are above normal. People with diabetes have problems converting food to energy. After a meal, food is broken down into sugar called glucose, which is carried by the blood to cells throughout the body. Cells use a chemical known as insulin, made in the pancreas, to help process blood glucose into energy.

People develop diabetes for two reasons: the pancreas does not make enough insulin for the body's needs, or the cells in the muscles, liver, and fat do not use insulin properly, or both. As a result, the amount of glucose in the blood increases while the cells are starved of energy. Over the years, high blood glucose damages nerves and blood vessels, leading to complications such as blindness, heart and kidney disease, nerve problems,

gum infections, and amputation.

Although people with diabetes can prevent or delay complications by keeping blood glucose levels close to normal, preventing or delaying the development of diabetes in the first place is even better. The result of the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP), a federally funded study of 3,234 people at high risk for diabetes, showed that diet and exercise can sharply lower the risk of getting type 2 diabetes.

The DPP was a major clinical trial that studied ways to prevent or delay diabetes in people at high risk for type 2 diabetes. Participants were overweight and had higher than normal levels of blood glucose, called impaired glucose tolerance. Both overweight and higher blood glucose are strong risk factors for type 2 diabetes. Because of the high risk among some minority groups, about half of the participants were African American, American Indian, Asian American, Pacific Islander, or Hispanic.

The DPP compared two approaches to preventing diabetes: an intensive healthy eating and exercise program and the diabetes drug metformin. People who engaged in moderate physical activity for about 30 minutes a day, followed a low-fat, low-calorie diet, and lost 5 to 7 percent of their body weight reduced their risk of getting type 2 diabetes by 58 percent, according to preliminary

results. Those receiving metformin reduced their risk by 31 percent.

Based on the analysis of several major studies, an expert panel of doctors and other diabetes experts, with representation from the HHS' National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommended that physicians screen their middle-aged, overweight patients for both type 2 diabetes and pre-diabetes. The panel also recommended that physicians consider screening adults younger than age 45 if they are significantly overweight and have one or more of the following risk factors:

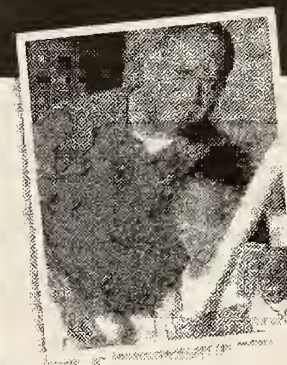
- Family history of diabetes
- Low HDL cholesterol and high triglycerides
- High blood pressure
- History of gestational diabetes or gave birth to a baby weighing more than 9 pounds

Belong to a minority group (African-Americans, American Indians, Hispanic Americans/Latinos, and Asian American/Pacific Islanders are at increased risk for type even more of a challenge for African Americans. For every six white Americans with diabetes, 10 African Americans have diabetes. About 10.9 percent of all African Americans have diabetes. The complications of diabetes are also greater. African Americans with diabetes are more likely to develop diabetes complications and experience greater disability from the complications than white of diabetes are also greater. African Americans.

Death rates for people with diabetes are 27 percent higher for African Americans compared as com-

Taking Control Cont. on page 21

**I control
my diabetes so
I'll be around
to see the next
Jackie Robinson.**



**Controlling diabetes makes
a huge difference.**

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Faith and Fitness

Nutrition Quiz

Answers and Explanations

By Charlotte H. Leach, MS

Fat and Cholesterol

True or False

1.) Since research has shown that eating a diet high in fat is so harmful to one's health, we should strive to eliminate all fat from our diet.

False - A certain amount of fat is needed for the body:

- fat stores provide a constant source of extra energy when you need it the most

- fat helps your body absorb fat-soluble vitamins A, D, E, and K

- fat cushions your organs and protects them from injury

- fat serves as an insulator to help us stay warm on cold days

2.) Fat and Cholesterol are basically the same thing

False - Fat is a major nutrient group that is used to fuel the body.

Cholesterol is a fat-like substance, but it not a fat itself. Cholesterol is produced by the body, and is found in foods.

3.) It is recommended that no more than 30% of our total daily calories come from fat.

True - 10% or less from saturated fat, 10% or less from monounsaturated fat and 10% or less from polyunsaturated fat. 55 to 60% of calories from carbohydrates, mostly complex from foods such as bread, cereal, rice and pasta. The remainder is from protein.

4.) Dietary cholesterol and blood cholesterol is the same thing.

False - There are 2 types of cholesterol: blood and dietary. Blood or serum cholesterol circulates in the bloodstream. Dietary cholesterol comes from food.

5.) Hydrogenation (adding hydrogen) is used to turn liquid fats into solids in order to extend a product's shelf life. This process creates a trans-fatty acid.

True

6.) The process of hydrogenation

(look for "partially hydrogenated oil in the ingredients on the food label) will decrease the amount of saturated fat.

False - This process increases the amount of saturated fat in the food.

7.) When limiting the amount of fat in our diet, it is saturated fat that should be decreased before monounsaturated or polyunsaturated.

True

8.) Some amounts of dietary cholesterol can be found in all foods.

False - Dietary cholesterol is only found in foods of animal origin such as eggs, meat, poultry, fish, and dairy foods. Animals produce cholesterol, but plants do not.

9.) Omega-3 fatty acids also referred to as "the good for your heart fat" can be found in tuna, mackerel, and salmon.

True

10.) Eating fat versus carbohydrates or protein can be considered more expensive in

that a gram of fat supplies 9 calories and a gram of carbohydrate or protein supplies only 4 calories.

True - A diet higher in fat automatically increases the number of calories consumed.

Overall Nutrition

1.) During digestion, food is broken down into nutrients, which are absorbed into our bloodstream and carried to every cell of our body.

True

2.) There are more than 40 nutrients, which fall into 5 major groups, carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins, and minerals.

False - There are more than 40 nutrients, but the 6th major nutrient group is water.

3.) The amount of water that we drink is not critical because only a small percentage of our body weight is water.

False - 55 to 75% of our body weight is water that is why it is critical to drink at least 8 glasses per day.

4.) A red pepper packs more vitamins and nutrients than a green pepper.

True - The level of carotene, an important antioxidant, is nine times higher in a red pepper. The red pepper also has twice the Vitamin C as the green.

Antioxidants neutralize free radicals, which are oxygen-by-products. Free radicals can damage body cells and tissues, as well as DNA, which is the body's master plan for producing cells. The 3 classifications of antioxidants are beta-carotene, which forms Vitamin A, Vitamin C and Vitamin E. Where do you find these antioxidants? You find them in fruits and vegetables, usually the brighter the color, the more you find.

5.) White meat chicken is more nutritious than dark meat chicken.

False - The dark meat contains a special protein called myoglobin, which is full of iron. And it also has more than twice the amount of zinc as the white meat. The dark meat does have more fat, but much of it is monounsaturated.

6.) If you are going to eat chocolate, dark chocolate is more nutritious than milk or white chocolate.

True - Dark chocolate actually helps fight heart disease. Chocolate contains the phenols that are in red wine, and according to one researcher, 1.5 ounces of chocolate equals a 5-ounce glass of red wine in terms of your heart's health. Dark chocolate has more cocoa-bean extract, so it has a higher phenol count than milk chocolate. White chocolate has no phenols at all because it's not made from cocoa beans.

7.) Fish is higher in good cholesterol than steak.

False - The reference to good or bad cholesterol refers to blood cholesterol and not dietary cholesterol. Cholesterol technically does not become good or bad until after it gets into the body.

8.) A typical 12 oz. Can of soda contains 10 teaspoons of sugar.

True

9.) 50% of the average American's salt intake comes from the salt shaker.

False - About 25% of our salt intake comes from the salt shaker. This is why it is important to consider the amount of salt in foods while shopping, especially if blood pressure must be watched.

10.) Daniel and the three Hebrew boys managed to remain healthier by having a diet of vegetables and water than those who had the king's diet of *meat and wine*.

True - This is why body & Soul encourages us to eat at least 5 servings of fruits and vegetables daily. It will help us to be healthier.

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Five For
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Moderator of Moderators

CONTRACTS AND LEGAL AGREEMENTS



Reverend James W. Smith, J.D.

by Reverend James W. Smith, J.D.

Grace and Peace to you all, my brothers and sisters!

Dealing with contracts and legal agreements is one of the most obvious areas in which legal advice is helpful and necessary. A church will have many situations when the services of an attorney will be needed to draw up, interpret, or evaluate a contract. Since a contract represents a legally binding agreement, between two or more parties, it is essential that the document be accurate, clearly understood, and prepared according to legal requirements. This is neces-

sary for the protection of the church as well as for the other parties involved. Trustees or other members of the church should not be preparing this document as by its nature, it has legal consequences.

Whenever contracts or legal agreements become necessary for the church, we must remember that the church acts through her authorized agent to enter into such agreements. In most cases the agent would be the trustee who have been given the authority to act on behalf of the church. The trustees can only act within the authority given and cannot bind the church to contracts, which have not been approved. A pastor or other minister of the church should not assume the role of agent for the church in matters of contract. If this is done outside the minister's authority, personal liability may result.

Legal advice is necessary when any real estate purchase is anticipated. In many cases it is helpful to have an attorney who specializes in

real estate law. It is never wise to "do it yourself" no matter how well meaning church members may be. There are several needs that can be related to the interest of the church. A title search is needed to assure a clear title to the property. Someone will also need to examine the contract to be sure it says what it should. An attorney will also need to draw up a deed that provides protection for the church. There will be a need to properly identify any restrictions, which may apply to the necessity for legal advice in real estate transactions.

An attorney should evaluate contracts, which involve major purchases or agreements lasting for more than one year. Any transaction involving an executor or agreements requiring the church to guarantee something should likewise be evaluated. Any expense the church may have to bear for these services may well be savings in the long run if it protects the church from faulty contracts or agreements.

If you wish to use our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

Dr. James W. Smith
146 Presidents Drive
P.O. Box 53803
Durham, NC 27704
(919) 479-0501
Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com

Dr. Joshua J. Haire, Jr.
Fayetteville, NC 28305
(910) 323-1508

Rev. W. J. Cox
107 Gray Street
Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 751-9899

Institutional and Specialized Ministries

"UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES"

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman

... ALL THESE MEN UNDERSTOOD THE TEMPER OF THE TIMES AND KNEW THE BEST COURSE FOR ISRAEL TO TAKE." Chronicles 12:32b (NLT)

The latest statistics released from the North Carolina Department of Correction reveal that there are presently 76 prison facilities and 2,064 inmates. Of that total inmate population, 20,083 (62.3%) are black, 10,540 (32.7%) are white, 609 (1.9%) are American Indian, 96

(0.0%) are Oriental and 895 (2.9%) are Other. The number of persons on probation or parole in the state are 116,909. Of the total probation/parole population, 56,160 (48%) are black, 51,987 (44.4%) are



Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman

white, 2,040 (1.7%) are American Indian, 316 (0.3%) are Asian/Oriental and 6381 (5.1%) are other. The most frequent crimes that led to incarceration in 2001 were drugs (22.2%) compared to other crimes of assault, DWI, larceny, breaking and entering and robbery. I submit these statistics for your prayerful reflection and thinking.

The Church in responding to crime and incarceration must like the sons of Issachar, understand the temper of the times. These times call for a reordering of ministry priorities. What was a priority in 1950 is no longer a priority in 2002. I submit to you,

the Church must see reaching, reconciling, and restoring broken lives impacted by crime and incarceration as a top priority in these times. The statistics mentioned above are just for the state of North Carolina, not including all the other states or the statistics from the Federal Bureau of Prisons (www.bop.gov). One thing is clear; our nation leads the world in the number of its citizens that are incarcerated. Post September 11th, the mood of the country toward crime (terrorism) has been acutely raised to its highest level of concern.

The Apostle Paul said, "In the last

The Times Continued on Page 22

Lott Carey News

News From The Foreign Field:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I am pleased to share with you articles from the foreign field. It is hoped that the news will be informative and of interest. Many GBSC members are actively working to improve the lives of those in other countries.

The Missionary Baptist Churches of North Carolina has been a long time supporter of the Lott Carey Convention. In talking with Dr. David E. Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, we will share with you monthly news from the foreign field as it relates to Lott Carey.

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention helps churches extend their Christian witness to the ends of the earth through: (1) Giving that supports evangelism, education, health care, hunger relief, and disaster assistance; (2) Going on short-term mission service and exposure tours; and (3) Growing through workshops, seminars, and messages that help Christians grow in their commitments to be God's people on mission to the world.

The Liberia Project

One of the most urgent needs of all of our mission partners around the world is transportation. Roads are in disrepair, public transportation is limited, and distances are great.

During the 103rd Annual Session of the Lott Carey in Norfolk, Va., the Laymen's League and the Women's Auxiliary agreed to jointly sponsor a project to purchase a new 29 seat bus for our Lott Carey Baptist Mission School in Liberia. Dr. Jeremiah Walker, who is the superintendent of the Liberian School, made an appeal during the session that fell on fertile soil. Sister Ethelda King, Women's Auxiliary President, and Brother

Johnny L. Duncan, Laymen's President, both agreed to encourage their respective units to work together to raise the \$40,000 needed for the vehicle.

For each \$30.00 contribution toward this project, the International Office will forward a copy of the Women's Auxiliary's Centennial Journal that was released at the last Annual Session. The attractive, hard bound, mauve colored souvenir journal holds important historical information about Lott Carey women in mission.

News From The Foreign Field: The Lott Carey Convention

A New Era Of Missions: HIV/AIDS Initiative

Rev. Lott Carey led his pioneering mission team to sail from Norfolk, Va., in 1821 to West Africa where he eventually settled and served in Liberia. Once again, Norfolk was the port of departure for a new era of Christian missions when the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention began a new voyage of missions during its Annual Session in Norfolk, Va., in September 2000 as the Convention launched its new HIV/AIDS Initiative.

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention has committed itself to a substantial faith-based response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic that is ravishing the African continent. The Greater St. Paul Baptist Church, Durham, NC (Dr. William H. Height, Pastor) and the Trinity Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio (Rev. Victor Davis, Pastor) provided gifts that allowed Lott Carey to sponsor a conference at the Baptist Theological Seminary of Zimbabwe, located in the Midlands city of Gweru. Zimbabwe is being overwhelmed by the magnitude of the pandemic. Some estimates hold that one in every four Zimbabweans is infected with HIV/AIDS.

The conference brought together pastors, pastors' spouses, church leaders, community health workers, medical personnel, and educators from various parts of Zimbabwe. They focused on cultivating positive responses to persons infected with HIV/AIDS; identifying accessible resources already in place in the country; essential training about prevention, treatment, and advocacy; and began developing specific proposals for responding to the crisis through local church communities.

A grant to help fund Lott Carey's HIV/AIDS Initiative was provided by the Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, Va. Alfred Street's Pastor, Dr. John O. Peterson, Sr., is also the President of the Lott Carey Convention. Dr. Ronald Johnson, Chairman of the Trustees Ministry of Alfred Street Baptist Church announced that the church was committing \$75,000 to help the Initiative begin and made the initial presentation of the church's financial pledge.

Lott Carey has made two critical decisions to insure the success of the HIV/AIDS Initiative. First, the organization has called Rev. Samuel Nixon, Jr., to serve as the full time HIV/AIDS Director. He comes to Lott Carey from a successful tenure of organizing affiliates with the Congress of National Black Churches, Inc., and will be responsible for organizing and overseeing Lott Carey's efforts to develop successful ministry models and secure additional multi year funding with interested partners for this effort. Second, the Convention voted to incorporate Lott Carey International.

Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr.,
Sycamore Hill Baptist Church
P. O. Box 6012
Greenville, NC 27835
252-756-4869
4539 (fax)



Dr. Howard W. Parker Jr.
Second Vice President

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Christian Education



Mrs. Portia Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

CHURCH PROTOCOL

TIME

you're on time for worship,
Sunday school, or meetings, you are
late.

PRESIDING OFFICER

Preside with assurance and dignity.
Move the program in a timely man-
ner.

APPEARING ON PROGRAM

Do what you are asked to do, and
stop there. Example: If you are asked
to sing a solo, do not begin talking
and then sing.

SCRIPTURE READING

Always give the translation, chapter,
and verse of the Bible.

LENGTHY SERMONS & MES- SAGES

Are soon forgotten

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

ALWAYS get the program partici-
pates approval before putting their
name on the program. This should be
followed up with a letter.

NEVER ARGUE THE SCRIP- TURE.

Sensitive issues such as divorce,
remarriage, simply quote what the
Bible says, and stop there.

CONDUCTING OFFERING

When making the offertory appeal,
NEVER say, "this is past of the serv-
ice where everyone can take part."

The congregation should participate
in the Worship from the prelude to
the postlude.

WORDHIP LEADERS

Avoid saying – We'll turn the service
back over into the hands of the pastor.

WORSHIP SONGS

The appropriate songs for worship-
psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs
(Ephesians 5:19).

LEADERSHIP

You cannot lead people you party
with.

A FORM OF WORSHIP

Only attend church when it is your
Sunday to sing. Ushers, or teach
Sunday school.

DON'T DESTROY CHURCH PROPERTY.

Writing, marking, drawing, tearing
pages out of bibles and hymnals. Do
not carry bibles and hymnals home.

SLEEPING IN WORSHIP

Sometimes the most sacred thing you
can do for the Lord is get you some
rest.

ORDANANCES OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

Jesus commanded his followers to
practice the observance of Baptism
Church Protocol Cont. on page 21

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

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and ask for your tickets to be mailed to you.

Or Fax: 804-876-5076

Allow 7 days for your order to be processed.

Remember these combo tickets are good at either
Paramount's Kings Dominion or Paramount's Carowinds.

Adoption and Foster Care Ministry News

May is National Foster Care Month

During the month of May, the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry will be observing National Foster Care Month. We will be celebrating the important role that our churches can play in the lives of children in foster care now working on behalf of waiting children. We are asking for all GBSC churches to get involved and sponsor a Foster Care. Observance Event on or before Sunday May 26, 2002.

Suggestions

- 1) During morning service recognize a foster family in your church who has made a difference in the life of a child.
- 2) Sponsor a Foster Care Breakfast or Dinner recognizing Foster Families at church.
- 3) Devote a Special Sermon concerning Foster Care.
- 4) Recruit a family interested in becoming Foster Care Parents.
- 5) Assign a church representative to serve as a Church Liaison with the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry.
- 6) Include stories and updates in your church newsletter about members who have been or are: adoption/foster parents, mentors, respite care providers, or adopted themselves.
- 7) Make information available to your congregation and community about fostering, adoption, mentoring, respite care, and other services.
- 8) Get your church members licensed so that they can become: "Holiday Parents" or Respite Care Providers (short-term relief for foster and/or adoptive parents); take a child to church, take a child on "one-day" trips—become a "Special Day Parent"!
- 9) Host a one-hour "Monthly Orientation Meeting" for prospective foster and/or adoptive parents; or participate in rotating the meetings with other area churches—open your doors not only to your members but to your community to discuss foster and adoption parenting options (we will work with you to provide you with at least 1-2 representatives from your County Dept. of Social Services).
- 10) Send stewardship donations to GBSC State Missions to help support the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry in their recruitment efforts.
- 11) Send this PSA to your local and/or community newspaper, radio, TV/cable station and ask that it be announced or printed.

Public Service Announcement (PSA)

You have always been right there. A person who is loving. A person who is humble. A person who can make a difference. A person who can guide a child in God's way.

During the month of May the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry will be observing National Foster Care Month. We are issuing a challenge to churches all over North Carolina to get involved and plan events promoting foster care.

Please call for more information:

Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., GBSC, Executive Secretary-Treasury 1-800-639-4272

**Rev. Anthonette Wright, GBSC Adoption & Foster Care Ministry,
Dir /Church Relations 1-800-842-6950 pin#3279**

**Earl Horton, GBSC Adoption & Foster Care Ministry, Dir /Public Relations
1-800-842-6950 pin# 3291**

**Sherbia Jones, GBSC Adoption & Foster Care Ministry, Western Region
Consultant (828) 256-6073**

**Jo-Ellen Paige, GBSC Adoption & Foster Care Ministry, Field Coord /Admin
Asst 1-800-358-0067 pin#5 832**

Steps to Adoption and Foster Care

Call us! GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry and complete a REFERRAL FORM (See contacts on left). We will send your form to the State Office and contact your County Office.

The North Carolina County Departments of Social Services, as well as private agencies, can provide or arrange for adoption/foster care services. There are no fees to adopt a waiting child through any Department of Social Services or licensed child placing, state-contracted agency. You will want to ask about foster care and adoption assistance benefits and supports available. There is no fee for the required training classes for Foster, Adoption, Respite or Therapeutic Care.

Submit an Application

Once you have discussed with a social worker (you can also attend an information meeting), the social worker will have you first complete an application for adoption/foster care. The agency will ask about your family and the types of children that you would like to parent.

Complete the Pre- Placement Assessment

You will participate in a series of family consultations with a social worker to help you understand both the adoption/foster care process and your responsibilities as an adoptive/foster parent. Your agency may require you to take special preparation and selection classes to prepare you to become an adoptive parent. They will provide you with information and the necessary skills to prepare you for a child who has experience losses. They also help you assess your ability to provide a home for such a child.

Work with your Social Worker to Find the Right Child

Once your pre-placement assessment is completed your social worker will work with you to locate a child whose needs can be met in your family.

Visit with Your Child

Once a child has been identified for you, a visiting plan is set up so that the child and your family can get to know each other before a placement is made.

Bring Your Child Home

All children, even young children, will have some adjustment problems when they join a new family. A child moving into a new home needs much patience, tolerance and love. Your social worker should be there to support you.

Supervisory Period

North Carolina law requires your child to be in your home at least three to six months before the adoption process can be legally completed. In some instances the time needed for adjustment and support will be longer. During this time, your social worker will visit with you in your home to provide support and assistance.

Legalize the Adoption in Court

While some adoptive parents choose to file their own legal documents, it is recommended that you use an attorney for filing the legal proceedings.

**GBSC Adoption & Foster Care Ministry
610 A Maywood Avenue - Raleigh, NC 27603
Telephone (919)754-8800 Fax (919)754-8801
Dr. Dorothy Demby-Paige, Project Director
Reverend G. I. Allison, Committee Chairperson
Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President**

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MINISTER'S CONFERENCE



Dr. Quincy Scott (second from the left in the front row), Dean of the Chapel and member of the Minister's Conference Planning Committee, served Holy Communion at the close of the conference. Assisting him (from left to right of the front row): Dr. Rudolph Tripp, Dr. Scott, Dr. Linda Bryan, Dr. Trinette McCray, Rev. Rosalind Polston, Rev. Evelyn Teasley; (second row from left to right): Dean James Roberson, Dr. Mikael Broadway, Rev. Blanzie Williams, Dr. Alexander Herring, Fr. Harold Miller, and Rev. Anthonette Wright.



**"The
Worshippers
Tell
it All!"**



Jay DeVaughn leads The Shaw University Choir in a rousing rendition of "You Can Depend on Me." The choir is under the direction of Dr. James Abbingtion, Chair of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts, and also a member of the Minister's Conference Planning Committee.



Dr. Trinette V. McCray of Milwaukee, Wisconsin closed the conference with a dynamic preached word on Wednesday, March 20th. Dr. McCray is past president of American Baptist Churches.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MINISTER'S CONFERENCE



Dr. James Forbes of New York City opens the Conference on Monday evening, March 18th, and sets the pace for a great spiritual experience. Dr. James Roberson, Dean of the Divinity School, and Dr. David Forbes enjoy the preaching. (Dr. David Forbes is the speaker's brother and pastor of Christian Faith Baptist Church in Raleigh.)

Shaw University and The Divinity School wish to express sincere gratitude to The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina for its support of The Annual Ministers' Conference. Without the exposure provided by GBSC, the conference could not have experienced the level of success that it did. Thank You!

To God Be the Glory.

Dr. T. O. Shaw President

Dr. J. T. Roberson, Jr. Dean

Dr. Rudolph tripp,

Director of Continuing Education

"Strides to Excellence"
Why Not The Be."



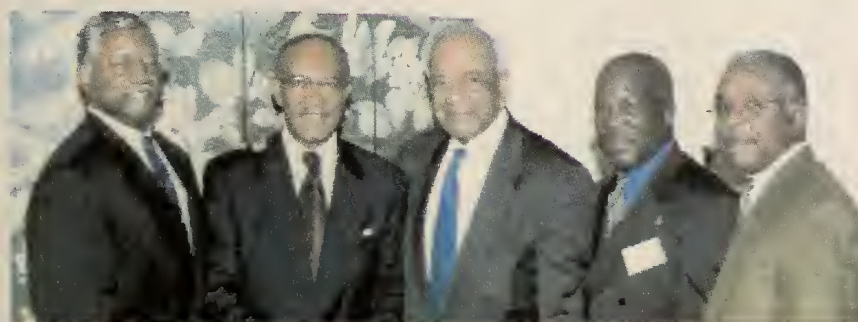
Evangelist and Pastor Shirley Casear enjoys the conference with Dean Roberson and Dr. James Forbes after preaching an electrifying message during the Monday late night worship service. She is pastor of Mount Clavary of Faith Church.



Dr. Gardner C. Taylor (center) of Brooklyn, New York, is pictured with Dr. Linda Bryan, Assistant Dean, and Dean Roberson. Dr. Taylor shared words of his wisdom, experience and premiere preaching gift on Tuesday evening, March 19th.



Reverend Daniel Lilly preaches the "Distinguished Alumni Sermon" Tuesday Morning. Reverend Lilly is a pastor of Mitchell Baptist Church in Louisburg, and the National Alumni President of The Shaw University Divinity School.



Sharing in fellowship at the Ministers' Conference: (from left to right): Dr. James Roberson, Jr., Dr. James Forbes, Jr., Dr. Gardner C. Taylor, Dr. Davis Forbes, and Dr. Charles Bullock.

News Around The Globe

GOVERNOR PRESENTS AWARD TO LLOYD E. INMAN, JR.



Submitted by Carol J. Smith
Associate Editor

Lloyd E. Inman Jr. was awarded one of the highest state governmental achievement and recognition awards by the State of North Carolina's Governor, Michael F. Easley. Inman received the Dr. John Larkins Award at a recent award ceremony in Raleigh, North Carolina. The Larkins Award is given to a state employee who exemplifies the pioneering spirit of public service evidenced by the unwavering commitment of Dr. Larkins to strengthen human and race relations in North Carolina. As an employee of the

State of North Carolina, Dr. Larkins worked in a quiet but effective way to help change people's hearts toward the poor and disadvantaged.

"Inman has probably done more to create a sense of 'family' with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources than anyone else." He has supported many state employees who were in crisis, through losses of loved ones, and other personal problems. He has shared in many joyful moments and has brought about a great sense of respect regardless of a person's race, color or creed. He always demonstrates a commendable sense of professionalism, hard work, and pride as a state employee," stated by the presenter.

Inman was honored for his commendable work for the State of North Carolina and his continued efforts to address human relations and stewardship of our human resources. Among other accomplishments, Inman wrote the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' diversity statement, was the minority member of the executive board of the Triangle Chapter of the American Red Cross.

As the Financial Development Chairman for the local chapter, Inman was very instrumental in organizing and collecting monies after the September 11, 2001 events in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C. With Inman's leadership, 4.5 million dollars were donated to the Liberty Fund. Inman was personally involved in working several weekends at "Ground Zero."

Inman's supervisor, William G. Ross, Jr. wrote, "I thought about Lloyd E. Inman Jr. and the way he reaches out to people when I heard a story on the radio of a hotel owner in Verona, Italy. The hotel owner decided to make a 5,000-gallon cappuccino. The reporter asked how big it was. The hotel owner, who knew little English, answered, 'Big, big, big, big!' The reporter asked, 'Who will drink it?' The man answered, 'The people of Verona.' The reporter asked, 'Why did you make the big cappuccino?' The owner answered, 'I like Cappuccino. Cappuccino is important to my life. I make it with my heart.' Does Lloyd make a difference with his heart? The

Governor's Office and other state officials worked very hard to keep this award winner from being overwhelmed by the packed facility where the ceremony was held.

Inman is a very well known person throughout the state and our country for his superior public speaking abilities. He has conducted workshops locally and nationally. Most recent he was among the lecturers for the White House Fellows Program. During the month of June of this year, Inman has been selected to give commencement speeches at several high schools here in North Carolina and Mississippi. You may have seen Inman hosting the international noted "Family Jewels" television program on the travel channel.

Inman is a disciple at Christian Baptist Church; Raleigh, North Carolina led by Pastor David C. Forbes Sr.



Lloyd E. Inman Jr.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ISSUES ALERT TO FAITH COMMUNITIES

Submitted By Carol Smith
By George Reed

The North Carolina Council of Churches is urging the state's faith communities to be on alert for efforts to enlist religious groups in supporting campaigns backed by for-profit corporations which do not clearly disclose their involvement.

In two recent cases, religious leaders have been approached for their support of efforts funded by pharmaceutical companies but which were portrayed solely as campaigns on behalf of the state's consumers

and of physician's rights. One group, the Consumer Alliance, has urged members of faith communities to lobby state leaders for the right of physicians to prescribe medications as they see fit. The other, Medicare Aware Coalition rallied support for the state's patients with kidney disease and specifically for continued Medicare payment for Zemplar, a drug used by some on dialysis. Neither acknowledged the involvement of pharmaceutical manufacturers in their work.

And, according to an article in today's News & Observer, such

efforts are drawing increased scrutiny and criticism statewide as for-profit companies with a huge financial interest in these campaigns give the outward appearance of being grassroots consumer advocacy groups.

As Joseph C. Brown Sr., president of the North Carolina Council of Churches, said in the article, "it can't be self-serving. It has to be genuine. I'm not saying that this group's concerns aren't genuine. But I do feel that there needs to be some concerted grassroots efforts from churches and community-based groups."

Council Executive Director

George Reed echoed those sentiments stressing that the Council was not anti-pharmaceutical in its concerns and that the issues raised by the campaigns may have merit, Reed said the issue is that the groups have not been forthcoming about whom they represent.

"We do not want to discourage people of faith from being actively involved in public policy debates regarding health care. More than one in eight people in North Carolina are without private or public health

Church Alert Continued on Page 23

AND THE PAIGES GO ON



The Paige Highlight

By
Earl Horton
Director of Public Relations
GBSC Adoption and Foster Care
Ministry

This month our first Paige Highlight feature will be the Reverend Otis Byrd, Pastor of First Baptist Church- Holly Springs and Mrs. Ceres Lee, foster parent and church member.

Reverend Byrd was an adoptee at a young age. He shares his experiences and values that led him to become a servant for our Lord. Mrs. Lee has been involved in the lives of young and teenage children for over 20 years. These two wonderful individuals granted an interview to shed light on the child welfare system and the impact both have received and given.

The Reverend Otis Byrd

EH: What special interest do you have with Adoption and Foster Care?

OB: "I have a great deal of interest with Adoption and Foster Care. I was an adoptee myself personally. Some of the benefits of having a loving and caring home can certainly be very productive for children."

EH: What experience did you encounter?

OB: "I had both parents in a home, both worked and were able to give him undivided attention. I did not have any siblings growing up. I was the sole person in the house to reap the benefits. There was not a case where I felt they gave me more than what I should have gotten. It wasn't a spoiling type of environment. It was nurturing and positive experience. It gave me some insight on work. I felt loved and cared for. The entire family embraced me. I did not feel like someone just dropped in. The religious training and background I received at home catapulted to where I am now."

EH: "What role do you think the faith community should play with the children and families?"

OB: "I think the church should play a strong and vital role. Especially, the numbers has increased as far as children in need of families. I think a church is one institution where there's an abundance of people to get the message out to them. The church does embrace family and does teach the connecting to family. So you want family values and you want those things instilled into your adoptive or foster families. They need those moral principals instilled in them. If they were connected in church or faith community certainly you would see people who are upstandards and morally sound in their judgment."

EH: Do you believe that African-American children are the majority in the state child welfare system?

OB: "Yes. I worked with foster children with an agency by the name of Lutheran Family services in Charlotte. Dealt with a mass number of minority children."

EH: Do you have any adoptive or

foster parents in your congregation?

OB: "Yes. I have one who has been a foster parent for over 20 years. She had 10-12 children in care. Some has been baptized; some have become members, and productive citizens."

EH: What has the church done to help foster children adjust?

OB: "We have embraced the children to make them feel comfortable to the church family. Whatever assistance the church can do to provide support for the children we do. As pastor he has talked to them concerning their needs, try to be part of their lives, and work with them one-on-one."

EH: Do you feel African-Americans in the faith community are misinformed about adoption and foster care?

OB: "I believe that the people are misinformed and some are just not aware yet. I think that the word has to get out. It is an ongoing problem. I think we have to become more vocal about the need of adoption. We need to know what classes are needed. What does it take for a person to become an adoptive or foster parent? I think people would love to bring a child home. People feel they don't have adequate facility and not knowing what they need to have makes them feel at a loss as a result of it. The message itself needs to get out and the more we can do that we can find people willing to become adoptive and foster parents for these children."

Cerish Lee

OH: What has been your experience with adoptive and foster care?

CL: "I have dealt mostly with teenagers. They had problems when they came in and from her experience she has learned to listen, be very supportive, and patient. Patience is number one."

EH: What role has the church played in your family lives?

CL: "The church has been very supportive. I bring my children to church. I tell them about God. They are involved in the choir; ushering, and come to church to hear the word."

EH: Has Wake County been very supportive during the process?

CL: "They have been very supportive in meeting the needs of the children. They are very supportive of the children. When I have problems I call and Wake County returns my call. They know that I do not call unless I need something."

EH: Does the church have an adoptive and foster care support group?

CL: "No. Not enough people know about the role of the adoptive and foster care parent. The church has been supportive by sending one to camp. She can depend on Reverend Byrd. He has been able to lead them in the right way."

Cerish Lee: People are misinformed. We are going to start a speakers' bureau with other foster parents through Wake County and get the word out to the congregations that they are needed. There are a very selected few and takes a very special person to become a foster care parent. I think that it is a fear for parents thinking that they cannot do it.

Election News

IMPORTANT ELECTION NEWS!

2002 Mid-Year Session Pre-Election Workshop
May 8, 2002 – 9AM
Emanuel Baptist Church
1075 Shalimar Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27104
336-788-7023
Dr. John Mendez, Pastor

All Moderators, Pastors, Officers & Members of the GBSC, Inc.! Please plan to join us for the “Pre-Election Workshop,” May 8, 2002, 9AM-11:30 AM, at the beginning of our Mid-Year Session. This workshop will explain in detail the GBSC election procedure for AUXILIARY ELECTIONS: (July 15 - 20, 2002), during the Trinity Annual Sessions, to convene with, Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC, Dr. Charles Bullock, Pastor) and PARENT BODY ELECTION: (October 30, 2002, during the Annual Session, to convene with, Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC, Rev. Carl Brinkley Pastor).

The Nominating Committee, Rev. Frederick Bass Chairperson; Registration Committee, Rev. Charles Walton, Chairperson and the Election Committee, Rev. Reginald Wells, Chairperson, will direct the Workshop.

BRING YOUR ELECTION QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS!

The Rev. Dr. Gloria Gerald Seeks Your Support in Her Candidacy for GBSC’ Office of Recording Secretary



Rev. Gloria Gerald

By Calvin Runnels
 Pastor, First Calvary Baptist Church,
 Winston-Salem

Dr. Gloria Gerald, pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, is a candidate for the office of Recording Secretary and is asking for your support.

Dr. Gerald is well qualified for the position. She has excellent listening and language arts skills, and has served as recording secretary in ministerial alliances and theology fellowships and on mayor’s task forces. She is also copy righted—Doctor of Ministry degree’s practice in ministry—and published in a book of homilies, Dr. Henry Mitchell, editor, Judson Press, publisher.

She is an active member of the Convention: attends sessions, contributes financially, serves on the Program and Evangelism Committees and contributes articles to the *Informer*. She has also taught church leadership classes at the All Baptist Assembly.

Some of Dr. Gerald’s other religious and civic affiliations include the Ministers’ Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity where she served as program chairperson; Baptist Ministers’ Conference of Winston-Salem; Rowan Association, Interfaith Council; Urban League Youth Board and founder of Winston-Salem’s Promise to Children and Youth. Dr. Gerald received her Doctor of Ministry degree from the Samuel Dewit

Proctor School of Theology Virginia Union University (formerly School of Theology Virginia Union University—STVU—); Master of Divinity Degree from STVU; Certificate in Clinical Pastoral Education from North Carolina Baptist Hospital Department of Chaplaincy and Pastoral Education; and attended Yale Divinity School for Christian Education and the State University of New York, College at Brockport for Counseling and Student Personnel.

A vote for Dr. Gerald to be the Convention’s next Recording Secretary is a vote for committed service, professionalism, and teamwork and for a servant who strives to be a sign of God’s presence in the world God so loves.

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Church Protocol Cont. From p. 13

and the Lord's Supper. Baptism proceeds the Lord's Supper.

TRAIN THE CHILDREN

Parents must teach their children that, just as in school, there are times for breaks and recess. (Deuteronomy 6:1-9)

PAGERS AND CELL PHONES

Pager and cell phones should be cut off during worship services.

SEVEN STATEMENTS THAT KILLS CHURCH GROWTH

We've never done it that way before.

We are not ready for that.

We are doing all right without that.

We have already tried that.

It costs too much.

That is not our responsibility

I cannot see how that is going to work

FUNERAL SERVICE

With music and message combined, the funeral service should not last more than one hour.

CHURCH TIME WASTERS

Not having a plan; lacking direction

Failing to set priorities; trapped by indecision

Inability to say no

Attempting to take on more tasks than you can possibly handle

Failure to delegate

OTHER AREA CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IS NEEDED

Visiting the sick and the shut in

Consoling the bereaved family

Comforting those in the hospital and family members

Taking Control Continued From Page 9

pared to whites.

There are a number of educational resources available on diabetes. For example, at the state level you may contact the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (919- 715-0112 or www.ncdiabetes.org), at the national level, the National Diabetes Education Program (800-438-5383 or <http://ndep.nih.gov>) and the American Diabetes Association (800-DIABETES OR 800-342-2383). Dr. James Gavin III., M.D., Ph.D., and external reviewer of the GBSC American Program of the American Diabetes Association.

Of course, do not forget about local health care providers such as local health departments, hospitals, and neighborhood health centers. The Convention's Office of Health and Human Services will also be happy to assist you in locating diabetes information and resources.

The above summary is for general information. Please contact your local physician concerning your health and the actions you should take.

Signs and Symptoms of Type 2 Diabetes

- Increased thirst
- Increased Hunger
- Fatigue
- Increased urination, especially at night
- Weight loss
- Blurred vision
- Sores that do not heal

Many people have no signs or symptoms. Symptoms can also be so mild that you might not even notice them. Of the estimated 17 million people with diabetes in the U.S., about 5.9 million are undiagnosed.

The above summary is for general information. Please contact your local physician concerning your health and the actions you should take.

not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; 10 Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. 11 For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. 12 So then death worketh in us, but life in you. 13 We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; 14 Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you. 15 For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God. 16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; 18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. (KJV)

PRAY FOR THE GBSC, INC.

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Q & A Cont. From Page 3

with the right of remarriage in certain circumstances. Had Bishop E. L. Crammer's proposals for a revised canon law ever reached the statute book, they would have included provision of divorce adultery, malicious desertion, prolonged absence without news attempts against the partners life and cruelty.

How we appropriate biblical text for good or for ill, will sometimes be influenced by our own circumstances or experiences. I'm not always quick to appeal to the letter of the word. I have too many wholes in my own life. So I'm somewhat Pauline in this regard, because as he says in 2 Corinthians 3:5, 6:

"Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God. Who also hath made you able ministers of the New Testament not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life"

When the Pharisees brought to Jesus the women caught in adultery, they appealed to the letter of the law, On her behalf; Jesus appeals to the spirit and does not condemn her.

However you choose to appropriate scripture, be truly Christian, whatever you do. Do not appropriate it at other peoples expense to label, stigmatize or dehumanize them as beneath you and less than you, because life has not been kind to them. Or, perhaps their lives have fallen outside the lines of what you believe is biblical normalcy. God did not make people robotic; be made them rational, and capable of reasoning, and spiritual.

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet they shall be as white as snow; though ye be red like crimson, they shall be as wool"

(Isaiah 1:18 KJV).

V.P.'s News Continued From Page 5

forting because they experience grief. People still need guidance because they get confused. People still need compassion and companionship because they get lonely. People still need forgiveness and a Savior because they (or should I say we all) sin. People still need hope because at some point we all die. Some things do not change!

God's grace, mercy, and love do not change. In Christ, God's image is not stained. In Christ, God's power is not weak. God is immutable. In darkness, God is light ... in chaos, God is truth ... in weakness, God is strength ... in death, God is eternal life! Some things do change. God does not! God's purpose, power, presence, and provision do not change. As Disciples of Christ seeking to reach the masses, our methods may change, but the message is still the same: REACH THE MASSES!

Are we helping to reach the masses? The Central Children's Home in Oxford is waiting to hear from us. Some things do not change: the home needs our support and prayers. Some things do change: the cost of living and the cost of maintaining the home increase each day. Some things do not change: the people of God in the General Baptist family will rise up to meet every challenge, every lion's den, every Red Sea, every flaming furnace, every wall, every stronghold that attempts to thwart the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

The Children at the Central Children's Home are waiting to see and hear from us. Help us by setting aside Sunday, May 26th as Central Children's Home Family & Friends Day. Send your prayers, offerings, care products, volunteers, etc., to the home. If you need further information, please contact me:

(Church) 704-637-0954;

(Fax) 704-637-1137

that are looking for events to attend will definitely read this section, it will be very advantageous to you to advertise your event here.

CHURCH NEWS

In June, the Baptist Informer will begin to report news that is happening in member churches. Please submit newsworthy information that is happening in your church that you feel other GBSC members would benefit from knowing. For example: Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Durham now has a Community Development Corporation that is planning to do some great things in the Durham community.

There are churches with prison, youth or women ministries that have made great strides. Share your stories. I truly believe others want to know about these things and these stories will be an inspiration to others. And readers love pictures, so send those in as well. Just make sure you identify the people and what they are doing in picture.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Have you renewed your subscription? Please do so by June so that your subscription is not closed. If you renew before the end of June, the cost is \$10.00 per year. The subscription rate will increase to \$20.00 per year in September.

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REMINDERS Cont. from Page 4

pay the same fees as given for the wives. (See Form)

5. The Leadership Training Conference will convene the week of June 3-7, 2002 at the Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill. The fee is \$120.00 per person. Please send to the office for forms and return by May 12, 2002.

6. The Youth Bible Camp will be held June 9-14, 2002 (Week 1); June 16-21, 2002 (Week 2); June 23-28, 2002 (Week 3). The fee for the regular camper is \$160.00 and for the day camper is \$ 100.00. Campers are received on a first-come basis. The fee or a non-refundable deposit of \$10.00 must be sent along with the completed registration form, health form, and parental or guardian statement form. Please contact the office for forms.

7. Self-Denial Envelopes can be secured from the office. Funds should be sent to the office prior to this year's Annual Session (See notice included.).

8. The 118th Annual Session Pre-Convention Banquet Tickets may be secured from the office now. Tickets in advance are \$30.00 and at the door, \$31.00. Please send your

ticket request along with funds to the office.

9. Housing Reservation Forms for the 118th Annual Session are now available from the office. Please complete the form and send it directly to the host hotel, Adam's Mark, Winston-Salem. The Annual Session Assembly will meet July 29-August 1, 2002 at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem.

10. The Young Adult Retreat will meet at St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte, Dr. Gregory Moss, pastor, May 31-June 1, 2002. Please secure a form from the office and return by the given date. (See form)

11. Our budget for fiscal year 2001-2002 is \$801,357.00 in terms of \$33,500.00 -Shaw Divinity School; \$49,500.00 - Shaw University; \$80,200.00 - Foreign Missions; \$36,500.00 - Central Children's Home; \$561,157.00 - State Missions; \$40,500.00 - Baptist Assembly. Please send contributions for the Woman's Convention made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention. Please mail contributions and correspondence to:

P. O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

The Bookstore Cont. From page 8

would like to have a Satellite Bookstore please contact Dr. Jimmie Whitehurst Executive Manager General Baptist Bookstore, 603 Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N.C. 800-639-GBSC; 919-839-2211 Monday-Friday 9a.m.-5p.m. We now accept credit cards.

place and work together with others. God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world. He made us one that we might grow up in the fullness of Christ. There is one Lord one Christ and one baptism.

Christ functions in the world through the church. Christ the head of the church is as the head directs the body. The church is the bride of Christ and she is to be faithful to Him. Every member of the church whether great or small has an important role in the church. If a member knows the Lord, he is able to work in the church. There are no big You's and I's.

Work while it is day. You must give an account of all that you do.

Skills Continued from page 7

Assembly in Laurel Hill, North Carolina.

We are entering into a busy son of the year for the Laymen's League. It is time to start making plans to attend our next Study Commission Meeting. This meeting will be held June 8, 2002 at the Genesis Baptist Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. The Executive Committee Meeting will start at 9:00 AM and the regular session will start at 10:00 AM. This will be the first time the Layment have

Church Alert Cont. From Page 18

insurance and therefore are unable to get basic health care services when they need them. That is unconscionable and people of faith need to be active on their behalf," Reed said.

"But we also need to know who our sources of information are and whose positions and agendas we are promoting."

Reed points out that church groups might well choose to support the drug company's position, but that they should keep in mind that the issues are more complicated than they might appear. Allowing doctors to prescribe the newest and most expensive drugs at will, for instance, could contribute to soaring insurance costs and, in turn, lead to reductions in coverage for some.

In evaluating requests for sup-

Every member needs what makes up a full body. Little people can do great things if you train them. The Lord can take a little and make a lot. Some churches have cliques. If you hinder God's children, you are hindering the work of the Lord. The Lord knows who is right and who is wrong. The battle is not yours --- it's the Lord's. The Lord can change strong hearts. Some may say "I can't rule, I won't work". You may as well enjoy yourself because you are going to hell because you have never done anything.

Reverend Robinson gave the Benediction.

had a session in the Greensboro area in a few years, so let us attend in large numbers.

During the month of July we have two major events. The Laymen and Boys Summer Retreat will be held at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly July 10-11 and July 12-13, 2002. The Laymen Annual Session will be held July 15-16, 2002 at the Martin Street Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. Please put these dates on your calendar and try to attend all the events.

port, faith groups should consider several factors including:

- Do they recognize the name of the group? Don't be drawn in by consumer-friendly sounding names if the organization is unfamiliar.
- Does the campaign seem more corporate than grassroots? Phone banks and multiple faxes are outside of the budget of many local non-profits.
- Does the group advocate a particularly narrow position? An organization advocating for across-the-board Medicare protections probably won't promote a specific drug therapy.

Faith groups with questions about a request can contact the North Carolina Council of Churches for additional information at 919-828-6501 or nccocfe@ncccouncilofchurches.org.

MUSICIAN NEEDED

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News

Don't Get Hung Up on Prepaid Local Phone Service

By Attorney General Roy Cooper

Most of us view local telephone service as a necessity, not a luxury. So why are some consumers being suckered in to paying extravagant prices for something that is actually affordable?

We all know how quickly bills can pile up. Imagine this scenario: you miss a couple of payments on your local phone bill and the phone company cuts off your service.

That is when prepaid local phone service providers' swoop in. These companies, such as Comm South, EZ Tel, and Smoke Signal, charges about \$50 a month just to provide you with a dial tone. The same service from

your local phone company would cost you about \$20 a month.

It is almost always better to settle up with your local phone company than to use prepaid local phone services. They are in the business of buying service from that same local Phone Company and reselling it at inflated prices to consumers whom have fallen behind in their local phone service payments.

The Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's office asked the state Utilities Commission to change a rule in a way to better protect consumers, and since that rule change local phone companies can no longer cut off your local service if you owe money for long distance charges. That means if you've lost your dial tone, you can

get it back by paying off only your local bill (not any long distance charges you may owe) and a deposit.

So digging yourself out of debt may not be as difficult as you think. Local phone companies typically cut off your local phone service after only a month or two if you don't pay. To get your local phone service back, you must pay off any unpaid local phone bills. You may also be asked to pay a deposit of as much as two-months' service. This deposit is refundable and earns interest at 8% a year.

When you add it up, getting back your local service, from your old phone company is probably a better buy than prepaid local phone service. Think twice before you drop \$50 a month for prepaid local phone serv-

ice. Drop a quarter in a pay phone instead and call the Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's office at (919) 716-6000.

Attorney General Roy Cooper and his staff want consumers to know that they have choices when it comes to getting local phone service. We are here to be of service when you need us, but through consumer education efforts like these columns we hope to help consumers avoid problems from the start.

Note to editors: This is one in a series of columns that the Attorney General is distributing to educate consumers. If you have questions or would like to receive future columns via email instead of U.S. mail, please contact Catherine Nickalson at (919) 716-6409 or cnick@mail.jus.state.nc.us

THE NEHEMIAH PRAYER CHAIN

Of the
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention
Of North Carolina, Auxiliary to G.B.S. C., Inc.
Initiated at the Leadership Training Conference
Baptist Assembly, June 10, 1999

2 Chronicles 7:14

"Every time I feel the Spirit, I'll Pray"

Participating Counties

Anson	Durham	Jones	Scotland
Brunswick	Hertford	Mecklenburg	Stanley
Columbus	Hoke	Onslow	Union
Cumberland	Iredell	Orange	Vance

Each county should have prayer warriors committed to the chain that pray every time the Spirit says pray for our families, Woman's Convention, churches and our youth.

Designated times to pray:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 12 Noon and any other time that the Spirit says so.

Scriptures

Acts 12:5	Ephesians 6:18	James 5:16
James 4:2-1	John 3:22	John 14:13-14
1 John 5:14-15	Luke 18:1	Acts 1:14; 2:1-4, 41-42

The Prayer Warriors Chain encourages any persons who desire to become a link in the chain to do so anytime you care to.

We all need to stay prayed up!
Jesus might come anytime!

Mrs. Robbie Diggs, Chairperson
Mrs. Colene Stanley, Co-Chairperson

Shaw University Divinity School
Advancing the Faithful, Inspiring the World

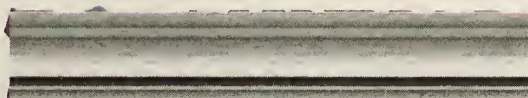
CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2002

2002 Women's Conference

SHAW UNIVERSITY
101 E. 10th Street, Raleigh, NC 27601
Tel: 919.973.1234
Fax: 919.973.1235
www.shaw.edu



FLOATS



CENTRAL CHILDREN'S HOME DAY



FEATURING: HILLSIDE MARCHING BAND & OTHERS

Face Painting



Arts & Crafts

Parade: 10:00 A.M. - Downtown Oxford
Campus Activities: 12:00 P.M. - Central Children's Home
GUARANTEED something FUN for EVERYONE!!!

INFO FOR BOOTH RENTALS/ PARADE ENTRIES, CONTACT:
Central Children's Home, 211 W. Antioch Drive, Oxford, NC 27565, (919) 693-7617

THE REVOLUTION WILL BE TELEVISED!!

***The Devil : Continued From
Page 1***

meeting our commitments. Just as you receive tithes and offerings each week we need systematic stewardship support.

Monthly contributions to the GBSC, Inc., would greatly help our cause. When there is discord, conflict and strife in the local Church and Association it affects the work of the GBSC. When we become totally focused on self and neglect the greater MISSION of our calling the devil and demonic spirits have invaded our congregations. We must understand that evil is ALWAYS PRESENT in our churches, homes, Associations, jobs and any place we go. Judas was a close companion of Jesus; the tempter followed behind the Master; there were two sinners beside Jesus at Calvary. Christian doctrine, in accordance with the Scriptures, defines EVIL as physical and moral.

Physical Evil: Also known as natural evil creates disorder in the world. Natural evil is whatever destroys or any way disturbs the perfection of natural beings, such as trouble, sickness, blindness, diseases, and death. Such physical causes are waged against physical well-being are therefore called evils. Those evils are, to some extent at least, the effect or penalty of sin is a clear teaching of Scripture (see, Genesis 3:10-12; 6:13).

Moral Evil: Known as sin, is disorder in the moral world. It is the failure of rational and free beings to conform in character and conduct to the

will of God. This is the greatest evil (see Romans 1:18-32). Moral evil is the disagreement between the actions of a moral agent and the rule of those actions. When we act contrary to the revealed law of God, it is termed wickedness or sin.

During my years at Howard University School of Divinity in Washington, DC and Duke University Divinity School Durham, NC we were often challenged in class about these issues of evil, sin and demonic forces in the world: Why does God even allow evil in the world? Why must we battle the gates of hell? Why do good folks suffer? (see, Job) Our many hours of classroom discussions centered around: The Theodicy Issue. Two major theologians come to my mind: Gottfried Leibniz and John Hick.

Gottfried Leibniz's theodicy theological system argues that God always operates on the basis of sufficient reason, i.e., God will not do something without a sufficient reason (discernible by pure reason). Thus, since God is obligated to create the best, and since Leibniz explains in his system that God has, we can see that the best of all possible worlds, metaphysically speaking, must contain moral and physical evil. If God had refused to create such a world, God would be morally reprehensible, for His supreme moral obligation is to create the best world.

John Hick, on the other hand suggested that God's intent in creating humanity from the beginning, (Genesis 1), was not to create a perfect creature in a perfect world, but rather

to create a being in need of moral development. God intends for our time on earth to be spent in building moral and spiritual character in preparation for our participation in the Kingdom of God. If God wants to use the world to build souls, He cannot place us in spiritual paradise, an everlasting "Garden of Eden," where nothing ever goes wrong, where there is no sickness or sorrow, no pain or suffering, no hello and goodbye. Consequently, there is evil in the world, but God is not to be blamed for it, since He intends to use it to build souls and ultimately develop each of us in His image to a point where we are ready for life in the Kingdom of God.

Conclusion

There is GOOD NEWS in our fight against the devil. God in Christ Jesus has promised us that we will overcome any obstacle, and devil or even the gates of hell. Paul reminds us daily in: 2 Corinthians 4 what our ministry and our calling are all about. In these last and evil days the church must rise up and fight the devil. As Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the GBSC, Inc. We need your help Moderators, Pastors, Church leaders. We need your stewardship support. God has blessed our Convention with a great and noble mission and purpose. We need contributions to support the Objectives, the Auxiliary and our Special projects. Our Baptist Headquarters must be rebuilt. At times I feel discouraged and think our work is in vain but then the HOLY SPIRIT comes and revives my SOUL

again.

The excitement of "the work"; the challenge of service at Baptist Headquarters; the opportunity to make a religious difference in this life's journey are spiritual motivators. If any of you have been in a fight with the devil and demonic spirits lately; if things are not like you feel they should be in your church, Association, home, job or in the world join me this month is studying 2 Corinthians 4. The VICTORY is in Jesus not us. Paul writes:

4:

1 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; 2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. 3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

8 We are troubled on every side, yet

***Christian Education Continued
From page 13***

**ORDANANCES OF BAPTISM
AND THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Jesus commanded his followers to practice the observance of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism proceeds the Lord's Supper.

TRAIN THE CHILDREN

Parents must teach their children that, just as in school, there are times for breaks and recess.

(Deuteronomy 6:1-9)

PAGERS AND CELL PHONES

Pager and cell phones should be cut off during worship services.

**SEVEN STATEMENTS THAT
KILLS CHURCH GROWTH**

1. We've never done it that way before.
2. We are not ready for that.
3. We are doing all right without that.
4. We have already tried that.

5. It costs too much.

6. That is not our responsibility

7. I cannot see how that is going to work

FUNERAL SERVICE

With music and message combined, the funeral service should not last more than one hour.

CHURCH TIME WASTERS

Not having a plan; lacking direction
Failing to set priorities; trapped by indecision

Inability to say no

Attempting to take on more tasks than you can possibly handle
Failure to delegate

OTHER AREA CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IS NEEDED

Visiting the sick and the shut in
Consoling the bereaved family
Comforting those in the hospital and family members

Classifieds

Shady Grove Baptist Church

600 South Long Street

Post Office Box 447

East Spencer, North Carolina 28039

Pastoral Vacancy

The Shady Grove Baptist Church seeks a Pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. We request interested persons to submit a letter of interest to include a vision statement. Please enclose references (as indicated) and a resume that includes, but not limited to, years of service to the church, marital status, and employment history for the last five (5) years. Also, enclose copies of license, ordination certificates and educational achievements. Please mail to: Shady Grove Baptist Church, Attention: Deacon Clarence A. Jones, Chairman, Pastoral Search Committee, Post Office Box 447, East Spencer, North Carolina 28039.

Qualifications

Must be a born-again believer, spirit filled, and divinely called minister with strong family and community values, Must be licensed, ordained, and experienced Missionary Baptist Minister, and an active supporter of state and local Baptist organizations, a Bachelor's Degree preferred, Must have proficient knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures and willing to follow, Evidenced community awareness and involvement; a good role model and possess ethical conduct, Must possess ability to teach, train and coach church officers and auxiliary leaders; Must possess ability to minister to family needs and diversities, Must be the husband of one wife, Must be proficient in conducting Holy Sacrament exercises, funerals, weddings, and baby blessings, Must possess effective oral and written communication skills, Must possess ability to work effectively with all age groups,

Please request two (2) business and two (2) personal references mailed to:

Shady Grove Baptist Church
Attention: Clarence A. Jones, Chairman
Post Office Box 447
East Spencer, North Carolina 28039

FOSTER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church, located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, is accepting resume for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

Education: A minimum of a high school diploma, preferable a degree or courses in seminary training from an accredited college or university.

Experience: A minimum of three (3) years with demonstrated ability in counseling and supervising all work for the church.

He must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach God's word.

He must possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist Doctrine, Church Policies, and Practices, and be willing to abide by them.

He must have the skills required to work with all age groups, with special emphasis on the youth.

He must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of the Church.

He must be community oriented, and have strong family values.

He must be willing to attend Sunday School, Prayer Meetings, and teach Bible Study.

He must have high moral and spiritual values, ethical conduct and be a good role model.

Please send resume to:

Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church
1911 South Church Street
Post Office Box 6317
Rock Mount, NC 27802-6317
C/o The Pulpit Committee
Mr. Hiawatha Knight

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED

Wake Forest congregation seeks Minister of Music. Duties to include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship: playing during Sunday morning worship service; rehearsing with various choirs one night per week; and accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to: Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church • 12700 Creedmoor Road, Highway 50 Wake Forest, NC 27587 (919) 870-8874

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY

SPRING. GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

The Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano. Keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as, well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church

Wilmington, North Carolina

The Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes /letters of interest from licensed, ordained Missionary Baptist ministers for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A minimum of three years experience as a pastor, where, when and how long did you pastor a church.
3. Administrative and leadership ability skills
4. Strong knowledge of Missionary Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
5. Must work effectively with boards, auxiliaries and committees
6. Good written and oral communication skills and ability to communicate with all age groups
7. Have excellent teaching skills
8. Must be family oriented and possess strong Godly character
9. Planning organizing and implementing programs that encourage participation of youth and young adults that promotes church growth and progress.

Interested persons meeting all of the above qualifications should submit the following information:

Letter of interest /resume

- Copy of license and ordination certification
- Proof of education and additional theological studies transcript

The names, addresses, telephone number of at least five references of which only two can be ministers.

All correspondence must be addressed as follows:

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
Attn: Rena Lennon
P.O. Box 1970

Classifieds

GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday. Prepare Choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship. Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times. Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church functions. Direct congregation in congregational hymns. Must be able to play the organ as well as read music.

To Apply call:

(704) 532-6813 or E-mail to GalileeNC@aol.com

Church is located in Stanly County (44 minutes east of Charlotte)

PENN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

225 West McClanahan Street, Oxford, NC. 27565

Rev. Willie S. Darby, Pastor

(919) 693-5396 • (919) 693-1015. Pastor's Office

The Penn Avenue CHURCH MUSICIAN

Mount Olive Baptist Church of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian, who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano
- *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music
- *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church

PO Box 214,

Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849

Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

The Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church of Oxford, NC. is currently seeking a

MINISTER OF MUSIC.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- *Must be born again Christian.
- *Must be able to play the piano, keyboard and/or organ.
- *Must be able to read music and is versatile in playing by ear.
- *Must be able to work well with a diverse range of singers and age groups.
- *Must be able to teach and direct hymns, anthems, spirituals, gospels and other sacred music.
- *Must be able to rehearse choirs at a scheduled time unless otherwise notified.
- *Must be available for Sunday morning worship services.
- *Must be available to accompany the pastor and choirs when requested or provide a qualified substitute.
- *Must be able to assist in the selection of appropriate songs for worship and services.
- *Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Penn Avenue Missionary Baptist Church is a warm, spirited-filled church that has worship services 52 Sundays a year and at present there is one musician available for 2nd Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 am. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 am. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

Pulpit Vacancy

Union Missionary Baptist Church

5090 Richlands Highway

Jacksonville NC 28540

Union Missionary Baptist Church is now accepting resumes for a Pastor. Our worship services are each Sunday of the month.

Qualifications:

Must be a licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister

- Full of the Holy Ghost. Led by the Spirit of God in all matters.
- Full of wisdom, knowledge and understands the office of Pastor, and performs it according to the scriptures and the needs of the church
- The husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality and able to teach.
- Not given to wine, no filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous: one that rules his own house, having his children in subjection, and having good report.
- Know the doctrine of a Missionary Baptist Church.
- Know and be familiar with T.R.O.G.A. (Trent River Oakley Grove Association) and take an active part in the different activities of the Association.
- Must attend meetings of different auxiliaries in the church to become familiar with those organizations and their activities, whenever possible.
- Must visit the sick and shut-in when possible.
- Must attempt to become involved with the various programs that the church participates in outside of the home church

Send resumes to the above address

NEED A FILL-IN OR AN INTERIM PASTOR?

Qualified, Experienced, Healthy and available for service. Call or write:

REV. MELVIN W. GATTIS

3907 Bivins Road

Hillsborough, NC 27278

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

110 Lincoln Ave., Lexington, NC 27292. Needed: Minister of Music or Organist. Please send resume to: Union Baptist Church, 110 Lincoln Ave. Lexington, NC 27292. Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas. Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

First Missionary Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is now seeking a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume to the Pulpit Search Committee.

Qualifications:

- Born Again Christian
- Ordained Missionary Baptist Minister
- Knowledge of Baptist Doctrine and Faith
- Seminary Training preferred
- Teaching Bible Study Weekly
- Proficient in church organization and ability to train Church
- Pastoral Experience Preferred
- Family Oriented
- Able to Plan and implement innovative youth programs
- Interested Applicants should Mail Resumes to:
- Pastoral Search Committee
- First Baptist Church
- ATTENTION: Deacon Calvin Graham Jr., Chairman
- P.O. Box 679, Stedman, North Carolina 28391

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

First Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor and is accepting resumes from interested licensed, ordained Baptist Ministers. Applicants must possess the following qualifications.

1. Spiritual maturity
2. A degree from an accredited college and seminary
3. Administrative and leadership skills
4. Community oriented
5. Must be able to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the youth
6. Strong knowledge of the Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures
7. Good oral and written communications skills and ability to communicate with all age groups
8. A minimum of 5 years experience as senior pastor, but will consider years of experience as an associate pastor
9. Must be willing to attend Sunday School

Responsibilities include:

Plan and implementation of innovative religious programs, activities, and projects designed to promote the church's progression and encourage active participation.

Please send resumes to:

Tanya M. Autry, Chair
The Pastoral Search Committee.
First Missionary Baptist Church

103 Church Street, Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church, located in Warren County, NC, is searching for applicants for its personal vacancy. Currently the Greater Lovely Hill Baptist Church has regular worship services twice monthly, on the third Sunday.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an experienced licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister living according to First Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
2. The applicants should have a vision for the church.
3. Must possess the ability to work with all age groups, with particular emphasis in youth development and community outreach, and with all auxiliaries of the church.
4. Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
5. Must be community oriented
6. Must possess strong and proven administration experience with a broad knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and practices.

Education:

Must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) preferring a degree or courses in Seminary Training from an accredited college or university.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume of relevant experience.
2. A copy of the certificate of license and ordination.

Send resumes to: Mrs. Lucy E. Branch, PO Box 52, Warrenton, NC 27589

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Third and Mulbury Street. Weldon, North Carolina 27890

The Pulpit Committee of First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for the position of Pastor, Mail Resumes to:

Deacon Stanley Edwards, 908 Country Club Rd., Weldon, NC 27890

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- born again Christian
- must be able to preach and teach God's Word
- Preach quality sermons
- Possess strong knowledge of Baptist doctrines, policies, and practices
- Able to lead and communicate with all ages groups
- Able to work effectively with church boards and committees
- some colleges seminary training preferred

NOTICE PASTOR NEEDED

At
Friendship Baptist Church
Whiteville, NC
For Application Write:
Pastor Selection Committee
P0 Box 1365, Whiteville, NC 28472

ST. FRANCIS BAPTIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH is looking for a Pastor

This person should be:

- I. Missionary Baptist
- II. Have good organizational and leadership skills
- III. Commuting Distance
- IV. Family Oriented
- V. Experience Preferred

Interested parties send resume to: c/o Pulpit Committee
St. Francis Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 736, Windsor, NC 27983

PHILLIPS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, NC is currently seeking a senior pastor, spiritual leader, counselor and administrator. All interested persons should submit a letter of interest and resume no later than December 2001.

The successful candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- Must be born again, spirit filled, divinely called minister with strong family and community values
- Must possess the willingness to follow by the by-laws governing the church
- Must have knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies and procedures and be willing to follow such
- Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister
- Must have significant experience as a Senior Pastor
- Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Religion, Theology, or Divinity from an accredited college, university or divinity school.
- Must be willing to work with all age groups with particular interest in the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
- Must be able to develop and share a vision for the future growth and development for the church.
- Must visit and commune with the sick, shut-in and bereaved families
- All applicants should provide the following information:
Copy of college degree(s), certificates of license or ordination Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training
Name, address and telephone number of (4) personal and professional reference with no more than (2) coming from other ministries
All materials should be forwarded to:
Dr. Ernie Wade
Chairman, Pulpit Committee
Phillips Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The New Hope Baptist Church, Gates, N.C. is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:

New Hope Baptist Church, P0 Box 91, Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Calling (252) 357 may make inquiries. 1061 after 4:30 p.m.

Church musician needed. Knowledge of music and the ability to play by ear is appreciated. Presently, morning worship service is held every fourth (4th) Sunday, but we are considering an additional Sunday for services. Must be able to play for youth choir and adult choir. Church is located in Warren County, North Carolina. For further information, please call (252) 257-0221.

The Center Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC is currently seeking a Minister of Music who is able to work well with a diverse group of singers including youth. Must be able to play keyboard, piano, and organ. Must be dependable and have good moral character. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to (Center Baptist Church, Attention: Personnel Committee, POB 550064, Gastonia, NC. 28055 or fax cover letter and resume to Personnel Committee at 704-824-7683.

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

ANNOUNCEMENT: Seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music. Loyal and (Committed to God's program.) Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician. Conductor and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to: Attention: Trustees Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913.N. Highland Street, Gastonia, NC 28052

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14600 Railroad St., Gibson, NC 28343

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Gibson, N.C. is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician. Qualifications: Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation. Musician requirements: *Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections. *Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services. *Be available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested. Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at the above address.

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

715 West Willis Ave., High Point, NC 27260

CHURCH MUSICIAN

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

Qualifications:

Should be a Christian who lives and acts responsibly and has a good character and reputation.

Musician requirements:

- Be able to play a piano, keyboard, organ and be able to work well with a diverse range of singers with directions for musical selections.
- Must have experience in church music (anthems, hymns, spirituals, praise and worship, etc.) of gospel traditional and contemporary.
- Be available for necessary rehearsals and Sunday Worship Services.
- He available to accompany the pastor and choirs to all church functions when requested.

Salary negotiable:

Pastoral Vacancy

Mitchener Memorial Baptist Church is searching for a Pastor. We are located in Smithfield, North Carolina and have about 75 members. Worship Service is held each Sunday. We are an autonomous Missionary Baptist Church that is affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated and their respective auxiliaries.

We are looking for pastoral candidates with the following qualifications:

- a. Must be a born-again Christian.
- b. Must be an ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.
- c. Must be knowledgeable of and believe in Baptist doctrine.
- d. Must be a strong spiritual leader, administrator and teacher.
- e. Must have a minimum of three years of experience as a pastor or as assistant pastor or associate pastor.
- f. Must be High School graduate or equivalent.
- g. Seminary Graduate required.
- h. Prefer person that is married and family oriented.

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 175 - 1390 South Chavis Road
Kittrell, North Carolina 27544-0175
(252) 492-0567

The pulpit committee of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church of Kittrell, North Carolina is accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Applicants should possess the following qualifications:
Must be a born again, spirit-filled, ordained and divinely called minister.
Must possess strong and proven administrative skills and experience.
Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines.
Must possess good oral and written communication skills and have the ability to communicate with all age groups with particular emphasis in youth.
Must be saved and filled with the Holy Spirit and able to proclaim the unadulterated Word of God that will lead people to Christ.
Interested candidates should submit a resume with a cover letter to:

Pulpit Committee
C/o Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 175 - 1390 South Chavis Road
Kittrell, NC 27544-0175

All materials should be postmarked no later than Monday, June 17, 2002.

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina
Auxiliary to the General Baptist State Convention, Inc.
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

"Study to show thyself approved unto God" II Timothy 2:15

Purpose?

The Woman's Convention Scholarships, established in 1994, provide annual scholarships to a Youth and Young Adult to encourage, support, and enhance post high school training and career success.

Amount of Scholarships?

\$500 (each) non-renewable scholarship will be awarded to a Youth and a YA.

Who May Apply?

YOUTH - a high school graduating senior, or equivalent. YOUNG ADULT - enrolled in a technical school, college, or university.

Criteria?

The applicant must be:

- an active member of a Missionary Baptist Church that supports the Woman's Convention.
- well disciplined academically and socially.
- an active member of the local missionary department (as a youth).
- endorsed by his/her pastor
- selected by the State Scholarship Selection Committee.

Where to Secure and Send Applications?

Applications may be obtained from the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention Office,
 601 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601 (919) 833-4823 and sent to P. O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27601.

What are the Timelines?

Applications must be received by the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Woman's Convention on or before May 31. Notification to award recipients will be on or before July 30. Awards will be made during the Annual Session of the Convention in July.

How Will Scholarship Funds Be Processed?

Scholarship recipients will provide the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Woman's Convention official notification from the institution to which funds are to be sent. All funds will be sent directly from the Convention to the school, college, or University.

Other Financial Assistance Opportunities (see the Scholarship Brochure for more details) Cora Pair Thomas Scholarship Fund, Ministers' Wives Fellowship, Ellen S. Alston Memorial Fund (ESAMT) and the Shaw University or Shaw Divinity School Scholarship.

Parade Participation

To: All Friends & Supporters of the Central Children's Rome

From: The Central Children's Home Day Committee

Re: Participation in the Parade on June 15, 2002 at 10:00 AM

We need your support in helping to make this parade a success. If you are interested in being in the parade, please fill in the appropriate section and return to Mrs. Vernell Anderson or Ms. Angela Jones, 211 West Antioch Drive, Oxford, North Carolina 27565

There is no charge for entering the parade, however, we need to have a definite commitment from you.

MOTORCYCLES

Name of Group or Organization _____

Motorcycle Club _____ (check if applicable)

Number of Riders _____

HORSEBACK RIDERS

Name of Group or Organization _____

Horseback Riding Club _____

Number of Riders _____

CLUBS OR UNITS

Name of Group or Organization _____

Number of Cars entering _____

Number of Persons Walking _____

FLOATS

Name of Organization _____

Number of Floats _____

SELF-DENIAL OFFERING UPDATE

- o That Seniors give a minimum of five dollars (\$5.00) per year for Self-Denial (Seniors Self Denial for Mission -SSDFM).
- o That Young Adults give Self-Denial (Young Adult Dollars For Mission-YADFM) also; no set amount of dollars was given.
- o That Youth give Self-Denial (Youth Quarters For Mission-YQFM) also.

Officially Revised: 11/10/2001
 By the WBHFMC Executive Board

SELF-DENIAL OFFERING
 (Minimum of \$5.00 Per Year)

Woman's Baptist Home And Foreign Missionary Convention
 Our 118th Annual Session
 To Be Held
 July 29-August 1, 2002
 Benton Convention Center
 Winston-Salem, North Carolina

State Missions Foreign Missions Christian Education

Name _____

Address _____

Church _____ City _____

Amount _____ Department _____

Mrs. Julius McDonald, President
 Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary
 (Please change coins into currency or check)

Note: Please make oil checks/money orders payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home And Foreign Missionary Convention and send to Woman's Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh NC 27602

Please mail blank and money by May 22, 2002 to:

Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

St. Paul Baptist Church, 1401 Allen Street, Charlotte, North Carolina

"Empowering Young Adults to Reach the Masses Through Christian Communication"

Friday, May 31, 2002 (6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) and
 Saturday, June 1, 2002 (8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER - DEADLINE, MAY 22, 2002

2 DAY COST

Advance Donation: \$25.00 per person \$40.00 per couple (Husband & Wife)
 On Site Donation: \$26.00 per person \$41.00 per person (Husband & Wife)

1 DAY COST

Advance Donation: \$20.00 per person \$35.00 per couple (Husband & Wife)
 On Site Donation: \$26.00 per person \$41.00 per person (Husband & Wife)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____ (Lunch and snacks will be provided)

Hotel Information: Be sure to ask for the block of rooms for the Woman's Convention:

Luxury Inn (formerly Best Western), 4904 North I-85 Service Road, Charlotte, NC 28206 (704) 596-9229 (Exit 41 Sugar Creek Road, Right at McDonald's on Service Road, Luxury Inn on the left). Brookwood Inn, 1200 West Sugar Creek Road, (704) 597-8500 (Exit 41 Sugar Creek Road, Inn on left across from McDonald's).

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____ Pastor _____

Telephone No. () _____ E-mail A _____

Young Adult _____ Young Adult Director/Associate _____ Senior _____

Please mail your donation for a Booth to:

Central Children’s Home of North Carolina
A211 West Antioch Drive
Oxford, North Carolina

BOOTHS

Spaces for booths are 20 feet wide and \$35.00 per space. Assignments must be made by May 24, 2002. There will be some tables available, but you will need to provide your own tent for shade. Fill in the blanks below and mail on or before May 17, 2002. Payment must accompany your request for space.

Name of Organization _____

Type of stand to be used _____

Items to be Sold _____

Central Children’s Home of North Carolina, Inc.
211 West Antioch Drive
Oxford, North Carolina
Central Children’s Home Day June 15, 2002

SOUVENIR JOURNAL CONTRACT

We solicit your participation in the Souvenir Journal for Central Children’s Home Day
DEADLINE FOR ALL ADS - MAY 24, 2002

Full Page Ad	\$100.00
Half Page Ad	\$ 50.00
Quarter Page Ad	\$ 25.00
Eighth Page Ad	\$ 15.00
Patrons	\$ 5.00

All photos for ads must be Original Photographs
In addition they must be size appropriate for the ad.
(All photographs will be returned)

CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY. IT WILL BE PRINTED ACCORDING TO FORM
We recommend that all ads submitted be previously typeset

COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH AD COPY

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General Baptist State Convention
of North Carolina, Inc

Adoption and Foster Care Ministry
May is National Foster Care Month
GBSC Foster Care Month observance
May 1st - 31st

During the month of May, the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry will be observing National Foster Care Month. We will be celebrating the important role that our churches can play in the lives of children in foster care- now working on behalf of waiting children. We are asking for all GBSC churches to get involved and sponsor a Foster Care. Observance Event on or before Sunday May 26, 2002

Suggestions

- 1) During morning service recognize a foster family in your church who has made a difference in the life of a child.
- 2) Sponsor a Foster Care Breakfast or Dinner recognizing Foster Families at church.
- 3) Devote a Special Sermon concerning Foster Care.
- 4) Recruit a family interested in becoming Foster Care Parents.
- 5) Assign a church representative to serve as a Church Liaison with the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry; to participate at our display booth.
- 6) Include stories and updates in your church newsletter about members who have been or are: adoption/foster parents, mentors, respite care providers, or adopted themselves.
- 7) Make information and referral available to your congregation and community about fostering, adoption, mentoring, respite care, and other services.
- 8) Get your church members licensed so that they can become: "Holiday Parents" or Respite Care Providers (short-term relief for foster and/or adoptive parents); take a child to church, take a child on "one-day" trips—become a "Special Day Parent"!
- 9) Host a one-hour "Monthly Orientation Meeting" for prospective foster and/or adoptive parents; or participate in rotating the meetings with other area churches—open your doors not only to your members but to your community to discuss foster and adoption parenting options (we will work with you to provide you with at least 1-2 representatives from your County Dept. of Social Services.
- 10) Send stewardship donations to GBSC State Missions to help support the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry in their recruitment efforts.
- 11) Send this PSA to your local and/or community newspaper, radio, TV/cable station and ask that it be announced or printed.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Ministers’ Wives and
Widows Retreat
(with a concurrent session for husbands)
Saturday, May 4, 2002
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, North Carolina
9:00 AM. 3:00 P.M.

MINISTERS’ WIVES
AND WIDOWS RETREAT
Saturday, May 4, 2002
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, North Carolina
9:00 A.M. — 3:00 P.M.

Pre-Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Church & City _____

E-mail _____

____ My husband will attend.

His name is _____

____ My husband will not attend.

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Date of arrival _____

Signed _____

Date _____

Please return completed blank along with check or money order made payable to Woman’s Baptist State Convention to:

Woman’s Baptist State Convention
P.O. Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 2760

Saturday Retreat Only

Advance Donation - \$18.00 per person
Advance Donation - \$36.00 per couple (husband and wife)

On-Site Donation \$20.00 per person
On-Site Donation -\$40.00 per couple (husband and wife)

*Friday Night Stay-over

and Saturday Retreat

Advance Donation -\$25.00 per person
Advance Donation - \$50.00 per couple (husband and wife)

On-Site Donation -\$26.00 per person
On-Site Donation - \$52.00 per couple (husband and wife)

*Please brings your own pillow, linens and toiletries for overnight stay.

— Lunch will be served. —

Please pre-register.

Deadline for pre-registration
is April 19, 2002

Baptist Informer

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Page 3	Dr. Fuller	Page 13	Christian Education
Page 4	Women's Convention News	Page 15, 19	Adoption News
Page 5	Vice President's News/Publisher	Page 16,17	Ministers' Conference
Page 6	Usher's News	Page 18	News Around The Globe
Page 7	Laymen's News	Page 20	Election News
Page 8	The Bookstore	Page 24	News
Page 9	Health & Human Services	Page 27-39	Classifieds
Page 10	Health & Fitness	Page 31	Forms
Page 11	Moderator News		

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Baptist Informer

Volume 125, No 6

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

June 2002

JOINING HANDS FOR KINGDOM BUILDING

By Tony W. Cartledge

WINSTON-SALEM — With combined resources of 1.8 million members and 6,000 churches, black and white Baptists of North Carolina “can do anything we want to” by focusing on kingdom goals, Jim Royston told a joint session of the General Baptist State Convention (GBSC) and the predominately white Baptist State Convention (BSC). The last joint meeting was held in 1981.

Royston, BSC executive director-treasurer, spoke at a special session of the two conventions, held during the GBSC’s annual midyear meeting. About 600 people attended the May program at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Winston-Salem.

GBSC President John Fuller noted points of closeness between the two conventions. “Most towns of any size have white and black churches that began as a single congregation,” he said. “But, the GBSC historically has done more with other denominational groups — even “some of which we don’t think are going to heaven” — than with the BSC.” Fuller expressed hope for more joint efforts between the two Baptist bodies.

Royston announced that the BSC’s Baptist Men and the GBSC’s Baptist Laymen’s League will jointly build two houses in Princeville this summer to aid victims of Hurricane Floyd. Royston said he prays that the joint project might grow into an effort to eradicate substandard housing



Emmanuel Baptist Church of Winston Salem hosted the 2002 GBSC Mid-Year Session. The choir provided the music. The pastor is Dr. John Mendez.

statewide and bring many people to Christ. The building project will be accompanied by evangelistic efforts employing a jointly developed flyer, he said.

Pereira, BSC president, said the conventions’ joint efforts were “a way of trying to be the hands of Jesus in a hurting world.” Using the word “hands” as an acronym, Pereira said the conventions, empowered by the Holy Spirit, should work together as Christ’s healing hands, anointed hands, nail-pierced hands, dedicated hands and saving hands.

Wesley Wiley, a North Carolina native who served as a pastor in North Carolina and Washington, D.C., praised the joint plan to combine home-building and faith-sharing in promoting the kingdom of God. Wiley, who has worked with the Home

Mission Board (now North American Mission Board) in directing cooperative ministries, referenced Jesus’ comment that the “rich young ruler” was not far from the kingdom of God. “How far is ‘not far?’” he asked. “How many more conferences must we hold together before we move up?”

To get together, “we have to work a little harder,” he said, taking lumber designed for fences and using it to build bridges instead.

H.C. Miller of the GBSC and James Richardson of the BSC gave a joint report on evangelism. “Evangelism is the heartbeat of our convention,” Miller said. “Christ is relevant, Christ is real, and the church has a divine mandate to reach the masses.” Richardson said both conventions are

Joining Hands continues on Page 15

2ND TRINITY ANNUAL SESSION

LAYMEN’S LEAGUE,
CONGRESS & USHERS

to be held at

MARTIN STREET
BAPTIST CHURCH,
1001 East Martin Street,
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 833-9756

Dr. Charles Bullock, Pastor

COMPLETE DETAILS ON PAGE 13
REGISTRATION FORMS ON PAGE 24

THE 118TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA

Benton Convention Center.

Winston-Salem, N. C.

July 28 -August 1, 2002

Reverend F.O. Bass, Jr., &
Mt. Vernon Baptist Church
of High Point will serve as
hosts.

Please begin praying and making preparation to attend and participate in this celebration.

COMPLETE DETAILS ON PAGE 4.

CELEBRATING 135 YEARS: 1867 - 2002

2002 MID-YEAR SESSION REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER



Logan

By Reverend Archie D. Logan, Jr., Ed.D.

INTRODUCTION

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ! Thank you for your prayers, and stewardship. 2002 represents our 135th Year of *MISSION, MINISTRY and KINGDOM BUILDING* as a Christian organization. We remember Lemuel Washington Boon, William Warrick and others who were lead by God to establish our "work." Many loyal and faithful souls have gone before us. We remember them and memorialize their work. During our 135th Mid-Year Session the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina have joined us as our guest. We celebrate our long and cooperative relationship in evangelism, mission and ministry projects.

Our two conventions last met together in 1981 through the efforts of our cooperative ministry relationship. This 2002 Mid-Year Celebration

comes for a call by our two bodies for mass evangelism and the building of homes for Hurricane Floyd survivors. The Baptist State Convention and the General Baptist State Convention share a common passion of Christian witness. We care for the least, lost, and lowly among us.

We are grateful for the support and full cooperation of Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President; and other elected officers of the GBSC, they have all gone beyond the call of duty to make this fiscal year successful. I am especially indebted to our Baptist Headquarters staff: We have been blessed by the leadership of our "Objectives": Mr. Michael Alston, Central Children's Home; Dr. David Goatley, Lott Carey; Dr. Talbert O. Shaw, Shaw University and Shaw University Divinity School.

THE GBSC STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Our Stewardship has been affected by the tragedy of "September 11, the sagging economy and the statistics that reveal over 800 of our churches gave \$200.00 or less. As of March 31, 2002 our expected stewardship revenue is far short of expected goals. We have joined with our Home Missions Department to devise a plan to reach our delinquent churches and associations. However let me thank each of you that have been faithful to our cause of "Kingdom Building."

Our work is significant: The Unified Plan; Health and Human Service Program; Adoption Foster Care Program; Evangelism, and Housing Ministry have become the leaders among African-American Religious Denominations. We also

thank the work of our many Commissions, Committees and Councils. The pastors, moderators, presidents, officers, members and friends of the GBSC must be commended. Together we have made a difference in the lives of the lost, forgotten, dispossessed, oppressed and deeply hurting souls.

SUMMARY OF LEGAL MATTERS COMPLETED BY THE GBSC

The GBSC has no pending legal action. We want to thank Attorneys Stephanie C. Hand, Kenneth Lewis' and Karlene Turrentine for their outstanding work and professional support.

THE GBSC AUXILIARIES AND OBJECTIVES

Our "Auxiliaries, Objectives and Christian causes" continue to be the basis of our mission and ministry as a Convention. We have been faithful to the work of the Laymen's League, Ushers, Congress of Christian Education, Baptist Student Fellowship, WBH&FMC, J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, State Missions, Shaw University, Shaw University Divinity School, Central Children's Home, Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention and other Christian causes.

We want to thank the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to the GBSC for working closed with us in the improvements at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer; new President Julius McDonald and WBH&FMC Board Members were instrumental in the success of our J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Ministry. We have a staff member on site fulltime to coordinate and supervise the work at the Assembly. Call Reverend Eric Harris, 910-462-2444, 910-462-3440 fax to schedule your events.

Our staff continues to travel the State meeting GBSC Leaders, Pastors and Moderators. As your full-time Executive Secretary I am available to worship with your congregations on Sunday Mornings. Please feel free to call on me. I want to update your congregations on the work of the GBSC.

We have several GBSC Field Workers available to visit your Churches and Associations. We provide workshops and seminars on many Baptist topics and issues. Call us 800-639-GBSC; 919-821-7466, 919-836-0061 fax, alogan@gbasc.org, www.gbasc.org or write me at Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC, 27601-2338.

THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM

The Health and Human Services Program, (HHSP), is presently being administered by Dr. Anita Holmes. We partner in The Diabetes Education & Outreach Initiative Program and the Minority Infant Mortality Reduction Project, with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. The project presently serves clients in Northhampton, Bertie and Columbus Counties.

The GBSC also supports a Church-based training program called: Diabetes Today. This program is sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources. The HHSP seeks to involve the church in health issues and health awareness. The Health and Human Services Committee chaired by Reverend Comolius Moore, Chairman, manages these programs.

THE ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE PROGRAM

Dr. Dorothy Demby-Paige of Bridges, Inc, now heads the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Grant Program. Dr. Paige succeeds her spouse the late Dr. Joseph C. Paige. Reverend G. I. Allison now heads the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care committee.

THE GENERAL BAPTIST BOOKSTORE

We ask our Churches and Associations to support our own General Baptist Bookstore. The store is located at our headquarters office, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338. Please visit our store or place your church orders by phone: 800-639-GBSC. Our con

Session Report continues on Page 21

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor
of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

PRESIDENT'S NEWS

Baptist Church Bodies

by
Reverend Dennis Leach BS. M. Div.,

1. Missionary Baptist
2. Free Will Baptist
3. Southern Baptist
4. Independent Baptist
5. American Baptist
6. Primitive Baptist
7. Full Gospel Baptist

All Baptist have a common beginning. Those called Baptist have their roots within what may be called, for a lack of a better term, the Free Church movement, which found variant expressions throughout the history of Christianity. From a historical perspective the term (Baptist) cannot be defined strictly, it is useful to describe the effort of Christians of varying theological beliefs and ecclesiastical backgrounds to restore the New Testament emphasis upon a Spirit-filled community of faith. In essence, the Free Church ideal stressed the necessity of a person-to-person confrontation with God, and so placed only secondary emphasis upon liturgy, formalism, organization, and creedalism in its rigid form. The Baptists belonged, in this respect, to what Ernst Troeltsch has called the "sect-type" of Christianity. In contrast is the "church-type" with its emphasis upon institutionalism and with an ecclesiastical authority vested in a priestly ministry that is entrusted with the sacraments of grace.

Accordingly, Baptist historically have stressed the necessity of a

Christian experience for church membership, the subordination of organization to a secondary position, a democratic expression of church life, a single standard of Christian living which is radical in its ethical demands, and the principle of voluntarism in church support as opposed to state support.

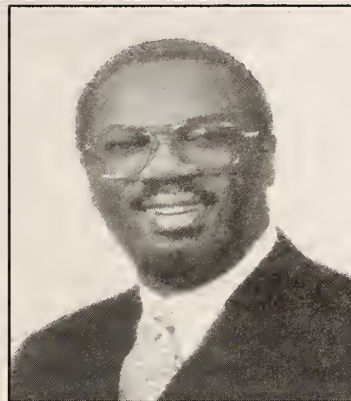
Baptist Distinctions

1. Anabaptist
2. Particular
3. Regular
4. Separate

Some Historians trace Baptist roots all way back to John the Baptist, but the above groups are out of the reform tradition. The Reformation that swept across Europe (1517-1648) gave rise to many distinctions in the church.

Anabaptists from: (Greek Ana, "again," and baptein, "to dip in water") those who advocate rebaptism in certain instances. Most prominently, then 16th century reformers who renounced infant baptism, stressed the literal reading of Scripture, and supported the separation of church and state.

Particular Baptist: A group of Baptists that began in England in the 17th century (1633) and that held to a Calvinistic view of theology. Calvinistic theology is also called Reformation theology, and its key emphasis include the Scriptures as authority, Christ as the sole agent of salvation, and faith as the means of justification.



Fuller

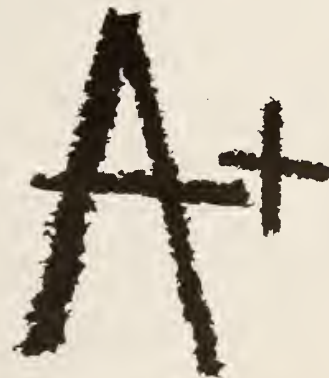
Separate Baptist: Separatist or Strict Congregational churches appeared in New England, so-called because they insisted upon an experience of regeneration for membership and separated themselves from any halfway measures. The Separate Baptist movement had in it the fire and fervor of the Whitefield revival. The emotional appeal of evangelist George Whitefield reached the masses, most of whom had been indifferent to reli-

gion. Their reaction to a harrowing conviction of sin was manifested in unusual expressions of primitive emotions: weeping, wailing, the "holy laugh" which frequently accompanied the convert's ecstasy of joy, dancing, and the cruder forms of emotional excitement, such as barking like a dog, uncontrollable jerking or muscular spasms of the body, and falling to the ground in a dead faint.

These phenomena tended to divide Christians into two camps: those who approved and encouraged such occurrences as evidences of the working of the Holy Spirit and those who strongly disapproved them. Its earliest adherents were converted in New England, where there were frequent occurrences of entire Congregational churches and their ministers, who had separated from the established church and its Half-Way Covenant, becoming Baptist. In their preaching they were more noisy and zealous.

Baptist church continues on page 19

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WOMEN'S CONVENTION NEWS



Dr. Brodie

A FATHER'S IDEAL INSTRUCTION

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

In Proverbs 1:8-18 and 3:5-8 we find God's Word and Wisdom Communicated through a God fearing father who desires the best for his child. Let's consider this admonition:

My Son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.

My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause.

Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit:

We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:

Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:

My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:

For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.

Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.

And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives.

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Ideal Father continues on page 5

118TH ANNUAL SESSION EVENTS

The 118th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina will convene in Winston-Salem, North Carolina at the Benton Convention Center. Please begin praying and making preparation to attend and participate in this celebration.

The session convenes during the week of July 28-August 1, 2002. Reverend F.O. Bass, Jr., and Mt. Vernon Baptist Church of High Point will serve as hosts. The headquarters hotel is the Adam's Mark in Winston-Salem.

Among the activities are:

1. **A Communion Service** on Sunday evening, July 28th, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at New Bethel Baptist Church. There will not be a pre-convention musical on Sunday evening.
2. **The Johnnie Blunt McLester Pre-Convention Banquet** on Monday evening, July 29th, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center. You may secure tickets from the office of the Woman's Convention now. Tickets purchased by the advance deadline of June 22, 2002 are \$30.00 each. Tickets purchased on site are \$31.00 each. Please send to the office now for tickets.
3. **Missions Study Classes** on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (July 30-August 1, 2002), beginning at 8:00 A.M. in the Convention Center and Adams Mark Hotel. Pre-registration information is available for class registration. There will be classes for Pastors and Senior, Young Adult and Youth missionaries. A pastor will teach the class for pastors.
4. **Youth Projects** on Tuesday, July 30, 2002.
5. **The Young Adult Missions Prayer Breakfast** on Tuesday, July 30 at 6:45 a.m. The advance donation is \$15.00; at the door, \$16.00. Space is limited. Please send to the office for tickets now.
6. **The Ministers' Wives and Widows Fellowship Luncheon on Tuesday, July 30 at 12:30 p.m.** The advance donation is \$15.00; at the door, \$16.00. Space is limited. Please send to the office for tickets now.
7. **The Youth Prayer "Pizza Party"** during the conventional week (time and place to be announced.) The advance donation is \$7.00; at the door, \$8.00. Space may be limited. Please send to the office for tickets now.
8. **Annual Address of President McDonald**, along with the **report of Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie**, on Wednesday morning (July 31).
9. **Early Morning Prayer Hour** from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday.
10. **Executive Committee Meeting** on Monday, July 29 at 9:00 A.M. **The Executive Board** will meet at 10:00 A.M. **The General Board** will meet at 1:45 P.M.

Representation and Pre-registration fees should be sent to the office by July 5, 2002. Fee information and forms have been mailed to District Chairpersons and Circle, Union, and Auxiliary Presidents. Chairpersons and Presidents, please, contact the office if you have not received your Annual Session pre-registration information.

Please be reminded that the 2001-2002 budget is \$801,357.00. We need approximately \$465,762.85 to reach the budget. Please bring or send, before the Convention, the greatest part of the balance of your quotas. Our fiscal year ends August 31, 2002. This is the tenth month of the fiscal year.

Please make checks / mo. payable to the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention or the Woman's Baptist State Convention. Please mail contributions and correspondence to: Woman's Baptist State Convention, PO Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

Rev. Mary Young is Banquet Speaker

The Johnnie B. McLester Pre-Convention Banquet of the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention will be held on Monday, July 29, 2002, at 6:00 P.M. at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem. Reverend Mary Young will be the guest speaker.



Rev. Mary Young, a native of Enfield, North Carolina, received a B.S. degree in Mathematics and a graduate degree from the School of Theology of Virginia Union University, Richmond, Virginia. She is currently a doctoral candidate at Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education.

Her experience as a teacher, lecturer and workshop facilitator include the areas of prayer, leadership development, family ministry, discipleship, evangelism, workshop and preaching. She regularly teaches at the week long Congress of Christian Education for the Baptist General Convention of Virginia. She was chosen as a participant in the Association of Theological Schools Women in Leadership in Theological Education program.

Reverend Young holds membership in the ABCOTS Minister's Council, Baptist Minister's Conference of Richmond and Vicinity, America Baptist Women In Ministry and several other organizations.

She is the wife of Reverend Barry Young, pastor of Mosley Memorial Baptist Church, where she serves in several ministries. They are the proud parents of a daughter, Jessica. The family resides in King William, Virginia.

MISSIONS PRAYER BREAKFAST

Sponsored By
The Young Adult Department
of the

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention,
Auxiliary to GBSC

Tuesday, July 30, 2002
Adam's Mark, Winston-Salem
6:45A.M.-8:00 A.M.

200 spaces have been reserved (first come, first served). The advance donation is \$15.00 per person and \$16.00 per person at the door. The donation, along with form, should be sent to later than July 12, 2002, so that the breakfast ticket(s) can be mailed to you before the Convention. Seniors, Young Adults and Youth are invited.

(A feature of interest will be presented.)

MISSIONS PRAYER BREAKFAST

Tuesday, July 30, 2002
Young Adult Department, WBH&FMC

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____ Pastor _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Number of Tickets Desired _____

Telephone No. _____

Signed _____

Please mail form and money to: Woman's Baptist State Convention
P.O. Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602

(Please return form with funds no later than July 12, 2002.)

Ideal Father continues

In all thy ways acknowledge him,
and he shall direct thy paths.

Be not wise in thine own eyes:
fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

It shall be health to thy navel,
and marrow to thy bones.

This parental instruction from God is of significant value to communicating to youth of today, as well as when it was written. God's Word needs no revision. Do not fathers today have the charge to give Godly admonition and also live before their children in order to steer them away from the fowler's snares?

TO ALL FATHERS, HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

(Please read all information in this paper, regarding the events of the July Session, the Banquet speaker, and the State-Wide Leaders' Workshop review. Please complete the registration forms for Minister's Wives Luncheon and the Mission's Prayer on this page and the Mission's Prayer Pizza Party on Page 11.)

"TRANSFORMING...THROUGH CHRISTIAN COMMUNICATION"

By Ms. Jean Lloyd

"Transforming the Family Through Christian Communication" was the theme for the Thirty-Second Annual State-Wide Leaders' Workshop which was held April 6, 2002 at the Raleigh Convention Center. The Senior Session opened with Second Vice President, with Mrs. Audrey Battle presiding. Mrs. Cleo Bowden, Worship Chairperson, led the congregation in the Worship and Praise Moments. Other devotion participants included Mrs. Claudine Garrett and Mrs. Patricia Russell.

Mrs. Lillian Williams shared several points in her discussion of the theme, with emphasis on these points: teach children about God; spend time together as family members; and pray



Julius McDonald
President of WBH & FMC

as a family. Mrs. Carolyn Hines gave spiritual uplifting as she sang "His Eye Is On the Sparrow." President Julius McDonald extended greetings. Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, gave

Transforming continues on page 11

MISSION PRAYER PIZZA PARTY REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 11 - PHOTOS OF STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP ON PAGES 8 & 9

WBH&FMC MINISTERS' WIVES LUNCHEON

TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2002

Place To Be Announced, Winston-Salem

Advance Donation - \$15.00 Per Person
At The Door Donation - \$16.00 Per Person

(URGENT! Please Pre-Register by July 12, 2002)

WBH&FMC MINISTERS' WIVES LUNCHEON

Tuesday, July 30, 2002

Pre-Registration

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____ Pastor _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Telephone # _____

Signed _____

Please mail blank and money to: Woman's Baptist State Convention
P.O. Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602

VICE PRESIDENT'S NEWS

FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT



Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II - M. Div.
GBSC Fourth Vice President

To the holy and faithful sisters and brothers in Christ of the General Baptist family: Grace and peace to you from God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. In concurrence with the Apostle Paul & his relationship to the church at Phillppi, I thank my God every time I remember you. Why? "Because of your partnership in the gospel and the confidence of knowing that God will finish what was started (a good work in each of you) and carry it on to completion until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:5-6, paraphrased).

Several years ago, songwriter Jimmy Owens wrote a song entitled "Forgive Me, My Friend." In this song, he posed a rather revealing question: Have we failed those around us who look to see a glimpse of Christ in us? In other words, as Christians who are called to be the "light of the world," have we lit our lamps and put them under a bowl? Does the world around us view us as a city on a hill that cannot be hidden? Are we failing those who look to see a glimpse of Christ in us?

Wait a minute! A glimpse of Christ... in us? YES! Jesus seemingly gave the world permission to expect a glimpse of Christ in US. Why else would Jesus issue this timeless challenge to His disciples of yesterday, for today, and through forever "Let your light shine (for everyone), that they may see your good deeds and praise (God) in heaven" (Matthew 5:16,).

How awesome, how profound, how scary! A glimpse of Christ in us:

- A glimpse of Christ's **COURAGE** as displayed by Peter and John who decided to preach in the name of Jesus, anyway, anywhere, and anyhow

(Acts 4:18-19).

- A glimpse of Christ's **COMPLETE STEWARDSHIP** as displayed by the poor widow who gave all she had to live on (Mark 12:42 & Luke 21:2).

- A glimpse of Christ's **COMPASSION** as displayed by Stephen when he prayed for his mockers and murderers (Acts 7:60).

- A glimpse of Christ's **CONSTANT & CONSISTENT PRESENCE** as displayed by the women before the cross, at the cross, at the tomb, on Ascension Day, and before/during/after the Day of Pentecost.

Many lives have been influenced because of the glimpses of Christ in Christians who have left footprints on the sands of time. My beloved sisters and brothers, has anyone's life been positively influenced because they saw a glimpse of Christ in us? Have our resistance to temptation and trust in God been a beacon of light to a weary traveler who may be looking for a glimpse of Christ in us? Have we have **embraced and exhibited a life surrendering and will-submitting PASSION FOR GOD. - COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE?**

The opportunity to provide a glimpse of Christ in us is here and now! The children/youth of our Central Children's Home in Oxford are watching and waiting to catch a glimpse of Christ in us. Let us shine our lights and stand tall as a city on a hill for God through Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior. Today, this day, I am challenging every General Baptist disciple of Jesus Christ to become a "glimpse-provider" through your support (financial, spiritual) of the Central Children's Home and other General Baptist objectives.

Contact:

Mr. Michael Alston, Exec. Director

211 West Antioch Drive
Oxford, NC 27565

E-mail: cch@gloryroad.net

(919) 693-7617; (919) 693-1213;

(919) 693-3963 Fax

Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II,

Pastor, Mt Zion Miss. Baptist Christ

413 N. Church Street/P.O. Box 2767

Salisbury, NC 28145-2767

E-mail: averyrevkin@aol.com

(704) 637-0954; (704) 633-6227;

(704) 637-1137 Fax

"The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen. (1 Corinthians 16:23-24, NIV).

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT - SHAW NEWS

By Reverend
N. T. Davis -
(pictured right)
GBSC Third
Vice President
- Shaw
University &
Shaw Divinity
School



Grace and Peace be unto you from God the Father and from His only Son the Lord Jesus Christ and may the Holy Spirit lead and guide you until the return of the Son.

Graduation was May 12, 2002 and we wish all the graduates the best in life. We are praying for your success and future. Let God be the center of your lives.

To Shaw University and Shaw University Divinity School President Dr. Talbert O. Shaw and to the Dean of the Divinity School, Dr. A. T. Roberson thank you for the service you rendered all year! To the youth at Shaw, the Divinity School, and the staff who make the good thing happen at the University. We are praying for you to have a Happy Summer.

Summer School will start May 15, 2002 and we wish those who are involved well. Thanks for the "Upward Bound Program" that will enrich the lives of our youth. Also

thank you for hosting the Loft Carey Conference each year. It is our prayer and Hope that you will find Peace this summer and some much-needed rest.

We know some will be looking for jobs and we hope you will be successful. There will be a Leadership Conference for Pastors and Church Leaders in June on campus.

Things are looking dim in the work place as far as new jobs are concerned. We are praying for those who graduate those who are looking for work and we wish you well. God is still in the blessing business and will make a way for His children.

Let us trust in the Lord with all our heart and lean not into our own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He will direct our path. God knows your ups and downs. God knows when you are on the rough side of the mountain for He put you there to teach you how to climb. You can't climb on smooth mountains.

Therefore we need the rough places to hold on to. God knows what His children need even before we ask, but He wants us to turn to him and call on Him, and He will supply all of our needs. King David testifies that I was young and now I am old, but I've never seen the righteous forsaken or His seed begging bread. Psalms 37:25 God blesses you all and have a nice summer.

65TH ANNUAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE INFORMATION ON PAGE 25

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VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE



By Reverend
Charles T.
Bullock
(pictured left)
Vice President
At Large

Equipping And Encouraging The Church To Serve The Present Age

As Disciples of Christ, we have the responsibility to help other members in the body of Christ to grow in faith and service. The ministry is for all that are called to share in Christ's life. Through **Education** and **Research** we can use our gifts to build up of the body of Christ. **Integrity** and **Commitment** exemplifies our character and dedication for carrying out the mandates of Christ.

Therefore, we shall consider to some degree what the church is and is not designed for as we focus attention on the following questions. Does God have a purpose for the individual in today's world? Does God have a specific purpose for the local congregations of believers, local associations and the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina?

The General Baptist State Convention is in existence because of the local associations and individual believers of a local congregation, the church. Therefore as disciples of Christ we emphasize that the church is not in the world to convince men and women of its relevance to contemporary life. Rather it is here to convict this present age of sin through the preaching of the gospel.

The church is not in the world to win the allegiance of each individual to an organization. It exists for the purpose of winning humanity to Christ. The purpose of the church is not to proclaim an ideology compatible with the world's outlook. The church is the custodian and minister of spiritual truth as revealed in the scriptures.

God, through the Holy Spirit, has equipped each believer with a spiritual gift or gifts to serve. These gifts are given "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ (Eph. 4:12). We should help individuals to

identify and recognize their spiritual gifts, their importance and purpose, and equip them to use these gifts to serve the present age. Likewise, the Convention should, through research and educational opportunities, help to equip the church to use its many and important resources to serve the present age.

We recognize that there will be challenges as we enhance our efforts to equip and encourage individuals, churches, and associations to serve this present age. However, we recognize that challenges for Christians are not new and are to be expected. We are confident that as we go forth to serve, God will not allow the problems to defeat us. We read in the book of Numbers that Moses sent out the twelve spies to spy out the promise land.

"Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, 'let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.' But the men who had gone up with him said, 'we are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we. And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, 'The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature' (Numbers 13:30-32).

Ten of the spies saw the problem, but Joshua and Caleb saw the possibilities. Their purpose in spying was not to determine if the land could be taken. That had already been decided. Their purpose was to decide how best to accomplish the task. The twelve found the land to be exceedingly good land, flowing with milk and honey. They saw the giants, the sons of Anak. But Caleb and Joshua saw these giants in the light of God and therefore were in no sense terrified by them; they represented only an opportunity.

It is not for us to decide to serve this present age; that has already been decided. The calling of God is upon our lives. There are church problems, social problems, family problems, national problems, international problems and individual problems. We cannot ignore them. They will not defeat us. Let us, like Joshua and Caleb, put out faith in the power of God and dedicate us completely to the Lord and trust him for the results. Let

Present age continues on page 12

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

From Rev. David Emmanuel Goatley, Ph.D

Executive Secretary-Treasurer - Lott Carey Convention

Dear Friends:

You and I share a richly caring Christian heritage. But these days, it's easy for us to get caught up with ourselves. If we aren't careful, we can get consumed with our own families, our own communities, our own ambitions. In short, our world can get too small and our future can get too thin.

That's why I'm inviting you and your church to become a part of the Lott Carey family. Since it's founding in 1897, Lott Carey has been a boundary-breaking, big-stepping, world-embracing outreach of African American Christians. People like you. People like me.

Through a contribution from you or your church family, you can be a part of this effective, spiritually sensitive missionary effort. Lott Carey will help you break free. Lott Carey will help you reach out. Lott Carey will help you better connect to the joyful, worldwide community of God.

In the last few years, as Lott Carey's chief executive, I've traveled widely around our world. I've interacted with Lott Carey's dynamic mission partners in places like Guyana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and more. We've laughed together, danced together, prayed together, and worked together. How I wish you could meet them!

From their testimonies, I know what a difference Lott Carey makes. That's why I'm asking you to join me as a contributing partner. Lott Carey will stretch your steps. Lott Carey will enrich your soul. Lott Carey will strengthen your hands.

Lott Carey will connect you and your congregation with an empowering God who is, even now, at work

breaking through the evil and injustice of our world. Preaching, teaching, healing, feeding, caring for others, these are Lott Carey's agenda.

With you, we're responding to the global HIV/AIDS crisis that is

ravishing sisters and brothers in Africa. Everywhere we go, we "do" the gospel while helping build a new generation of Christian leaders around the world.

When you contribute to Lott Carey, your money goes far. We're focused. We're honest. And we don't get distracted. From the beginning, Lott Carey has been missions, pure and simple. I believe we practice the best stewardship of money that you will find anywhere. We're a worldwide outreach that you and your congregation can be proud of.

Won't you join us as we link arms with sisters and brothers around the world to spread, and do, the good news of Jesus? Everybody is somebody with Lott Carey.

That's why we "come alongside" national Christian leaders, laboring together for Christ. Under their leadership, we do evangelism, education, and empowerment. You'll find that as we work together to meet the physical and spiritual needs of God's people, all of us grow. All of us are blessed. So join me. Together, we'll break through the walls. Together, we'll feel the Spirit's power. And together, we'll know the truth of that old song, "He's got the whole world in His hands..." Isn't it time we recovered our heritage? I'm ready for God's anoint-



Dr. Howard W. Parker,
Jr.
Second Vice President -
Lott Carey Convention

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 32ND STATEWIDE LEADERS WORKSHOP

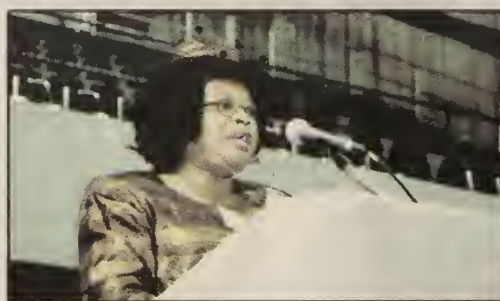
The 32nd Statewide Leaders' Workshop was held at the Raleigh Civic Center on April 6, 2002. (from left to right) are: Rev. Jeremiah Robinson, Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow, 4th Vice President; Mrs. Linda Inman, 3rd Vice President; Mrs. Audrey Battle, 2nd Vice President; Mrs. Bronnie Daniels, 1st Vice President; Mrs. Julius McDonald, President; Dr. Pricilla A. Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the WBSC.



Youth Session Directors and panel participants in panel discussion for the young adults. (left to right): Mrs. Helen Judd, Associate Director; Ms. Vanessa Gregory, Director; Mr. Sigmond Jenrette, Asst. Chair Director; Ms. Jewelyn Dunn and Ms. Tilda Mitchell.



Executive Secretary-Treasurer Pricilla A. Brodie gives the Directives for the 32nd Statewide Leader's Workshop.



President Julius McDonald is giving greetings to all of the Workshop participants.



Mrs. Carolyn Hines sings a solo for the crowd during the Senior Session program.

PRESENTERS AT THE STATEWIDE LEADERS WORKSHOP SENIOR SESSION



Third Vice President Minister Linda Inman



Ms. Betty Adams



Mrs. Blanch Wimberly



This crowd sits through the Youth Session portion of the Statewide Leaders Workshop Program.



A closer look at the Young Adult Session.



A panoramic view of the attendees of the 32nd Statewide Leaders Workshop.

MORE HIGHLIGHTS...



Reverend Wayne Hines presents Workshop information to Mrs. Ellender LeMoy, Supervisor of the Statewide Leaders Workshop Youth Session. President of the Youth Session, Ms. Vernice Lassiter, is seated in the foreground.



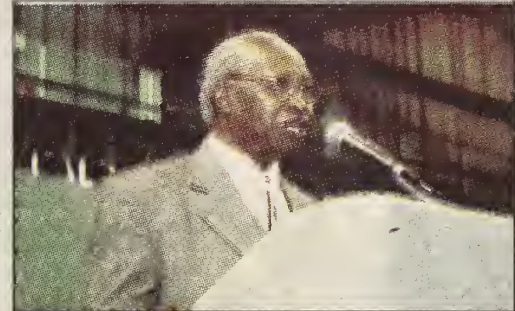
Workshop literature promoters Mrs. E. B. Penny and Ms. Norris Dean are seated at their Workshop station.



These participants in the Young Adult "NC Food Bank" Drive stand outside the Raleigh Civic Center with donor contributions.



Reverend Jamale Johnson gives a spirited presentation.



Reverend Jeremiah Robinson preaches at the 32nd Statewide Leaders Workshop.

t h e
Gentiles.

If you want to be saved, you must believe and receive the Gospel. The Word of God shall stand forever.

Mark 16:15 says, "Go ye into the world and preach the Gospel (good news) of Jesus Christ." The Bible lying unopened on the table will not save a soul but opening it will save someone. We need to hear and receive God's Word. We need to proclaim it; parents tell your children what God has done for you. What is wrong with our world today is that we have not heard the Word or have not obeyed it. Jesus is the living Word, the only one between God and man. We need to proclaim that I know a man from Galilee who can save everybody.

A tree is known by the fruit it bears. You can't be a Christian and a devil. We must proclaim the Word of God. Jesus told us to go and preach the Gospel to everyone. It will change your life. We must tell it everywhere we go. This week as you have received instructions, don't forget to tell the Word of God in its purity. It's not enough to know the Word and don't live by it. If you're a Christian, you must act like one. People may not want to hear it, but tell them anyway that Jesus can save everyone. We must proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If you witness and live it, someone will hear it and be changed. Tell the sinners that won't come to church that God loves them. Tell the backsliders God loves them. When people argue with you about coming to church, tell them to come and show you another way of doing it, and then there'll be two people trying to work for Jesus. In his closing Reverend Clark told us to "Proclaim the Word."

"Proclaim The Word"

By Ms. Linda Peele

The Missionary Training Institute was held March 11th – 15th, 2002, at New Bethany Baptist Missionary Church, Harrellsville, NC at 7:00 P.M. nightly. Reverend William C. Clark is the pastor. Reverend Elbert Lee, Jr., was the moderator; Ms. Linda Peele is President of the Woman's Auxiliary, and Ms. Della Moore served as Assistant Directress. The training was divided into 4 classes.

Mrs. Audrey T. Battle taught the adult class. She is the Second Vice-President of the Woman's Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The study book was **Getting Acquainted With The Bible**. In addition to the study book, Mrs. Battle shared handouts with the group each night. They included handouts about the "Bible", "What Is The Bible", and "What Does The Bible Say About Jesus", "Understanding The Gospel", "Finding Out Ways Around The Bible", "The Ten Commandments and Me." Mrs. Battle asked the question, "When you read scripture, how do you see Jesus?" She also told us that we should state: "It is my intention to read the Bible so that the Bible gets my attention." We must know what we are

about. There were 150 adults registered for the week and 55 received certificates for attending at least 4 nights.

Minister Belinda Smith and Mrs. Terri Cheatham taught the teen class. The teens used the book entitled **The Bondage Breaker**. There were several informal discussions each night including using makeup or paint as the Bible refers to it. The class was told that "paint" came from women (prostitutes) who wanted to appeal to men. Another discussion was about being baptized and saved. They were asked how and why did they get baptized. Most said they got baptized because their parents/grandparents told them to and some did it because others did. Some, however, said they got baptized because they wanted to and felt that they were led by God to do it. Another discussion, which was the basis for their report on Friday, was "Who I Am." The teacher asked them what do you see when you look in the mirror? "When you look beyond your physical features what do you see?" Some stated that they see a child of God, (who represents) the light of the world and the way the truth and the light. The teen class registered 43 students.

The Youth class, ages 6-11, was taught by Mrs. Berna Stevens. They used two books, **Surprise in Disguise**

and **Thank You Jesus**. Both books focused on Jesus and His death and resurrection. Lecia Mitchell, a young lady from Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Lewiston, NC, gave a report of their class. She reported that they were taught about sin and even though we sin, God still loves us. The youth class registered 27 students.

Before Reverend William C. Clark's sermon on Friday, March 15, Ariel Allen, a young man from Indian Woods Missionary Baptist Church, sang a solo, "The Holy City." Reverend Clark preached a message entitled "The Power of the Word." Reverend Clark's scripture was from Hebrews 4:12. He talked about the importance and power of the Bible.

First, he asked, "What is the Bible?" It is a book of books and the revelation of God given to men. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. It is God's inspired Word. There were two Covenants- one in the Old Testament and one in the New. The New Covenant was provided after the disobedience and downfall of Israel. The Word became flesh and became the redemptive work of God. Emmanuel is with us. Christ is the source of the Gospel. He came to His own and they rejected Him, so then he turned to us,

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MOMENT



By Dr.
Jasper P.
Reed
(pictured left)
President,
Congress of
Christian
Education

As we continue our series on who will lead our Convention for the next four years, let us at the same time focus on our Auxiliaries with special emphasis on the Congress of Christian Education. In the past articles we concentrated on two imperatives inherited in God's call to His Servant Leaders. In this article I want to raise to the level of examination three things that ought command our attention as we, through prayer and supplication, approach the Throne of God with as we seek servant leaders for the future.

The first thing we should seek to determine is the call and characteristics of a servant leader. In Matthew 20:25-27 we find, "Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercises dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: The word for disciples of today is a reminder that inherited in these words from Jesus are some important principles for us to live and be guided by. While some people around us rules and while high officials have a tendency to lord over others Christians, as disciples are not to act this way. Greatness in the Lord's Kingdom does not come through ruler ship or authority but rather through service to one another. Please note that those leaders who will be the most highly esteemed will be those who serve, those who are humble. Jesus serves as our model as a servant leader.

Secondly, as we approach the time

of leadership change we should go back and study afresh the Word of the Lord that is recorded in Numbers 27:18-23. In response to the scenario described by Moses in verses 15-17 the Lord's responded immediately. He impressed upon him, Moses, the necessity for training new leaders. This should occur before turning over the leadership role to them. Examine the Lord's list of attributes for new leaders. The leader should be spirit-filled, one who has already demonstrated intent, commitment, and the ability to carry out the charge that is inherited in the position of his or her choice. The new leaders need to be ideal successors to the outgoing administration. The appointment, installation, must be public so That everyone in the Convention will know that they are the new officers and are entitled to be respected as such. To bring this into cleared focus let us read in Paul's letter to Titus 1:1-3. In his salutation Paul was readying Titus for future leadership in the Church. He, Paul, raised two main concerns: the faith of God's people and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness. Paul used himself as an example of a servant leader being used by God. He was to call out a people for God and also to teach them the truth, which is conducive to godly living. For Paul this meant the salvation and sanctification of God's people. This is why Paul felt the need to train Titus in those things with a view of eternal life.

Finally, Paul gives us parting words in Galatians 5:13-15. Do not use your leadership position as a base of operation that would allow a hint of sin to gain a foothold in your administration. Let your serving be not lusting for power. Remember Jesus said, "All power in Heaven and Earth is in my hand." Let your serving be based on love. For future guidance and strength read Romans 13:8-10.

A Christian Education Moment for Our YOUTH and Young-at-Heart--- Quiz 602

S E R V A N T S

1. Who was the unfair employer? Genesis 16:4
2. Who was this treaty made with? Joshua 9:21-22
3. Who was the King that is being spoken to? II Samuel 15:21
4. Who is speaking in this scripture? II Chronicles 9:7

5. What is the reward for steward taking care of the fig tree? Proverbs 27:18

6. What does this verse means to us today? Matthew 10:24

7. Are there rewards for being faithful? Matthew 24:45

8. What do we know about Simon in this verse? Mark 15:21

9. Who was John describing in this passage? Luke 3:16-17

10. Whom Paul is describing in this passage? Philippians 2:7

TEN MYTHS WOMEN OVERCOME IN THE CHURCH

Written By J. Lee Grady - Submitted by Portia Brandon

1. God created women as inferior beings.

God created male and female-in his own image. Womanhood was no after-thought with God, and it was through the creation of both male and female that God has offered his fullest self-revelation. (Genesis 1:27).

2. Women are not equipped to assume leadership roles in the church.

Miriam represented the authority of God to the people She spoke for God. That's why she is described in Exodus 15:20 as a prophetess. Deborah held the respected position of Judge. Samuel. Judges 4:3.

3. Women must not teach or preach to men in a church setting.

Paul is simply quoting the oral law of the Jews. Priscilla and Aquila were both ministers who had a church in their home (Roman 16:5). Paul said, "Help those women which labored with men the Gospel." (Phil 4:3). The Lord also foretold, "Your sons and daughters shall prophesy upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit." (Joel 2:28).

A woman should view her husband as the "priest of the home."

We have only one Priest, Jesus Christ. There is only one mediator between

God and humanity, that is Jesus Christ.

We are not segregated by gender, with men in the holy of holies and women in the outer courtyard. God's grace is made fully available to women and men alike.

5. A man needs to "cover" a woman in her ministry activities.

There is no verse In the Bible that says, If a

w o m a n teachers My Word, make sure a man is present so she will be covered properly. Jesus' blood was shed for all male and female, and it is the only covering we need. When Christ suffered at Calvary, women were there at the foot of His cross-and those same women identified with His death three days later when they bought spices to His tomb early Easter Sunday morning.

6. Women who exhibit strong leadership qualities pose a serious danger to the church.

There are many great women of the Bible who are fearless. Remember Pharaoh had sentenced the Jewish midwives who put their lives in jeop



Portia Brandon

Ten Myths continues on page 21

Transforming continues

"Perspectives." She asked that the congregation would try something new in an "old way." Reading passages of scriptures, one side of the congregation was requested to read in unison Titus 3:4-7 and the other side to read Psalm 147:1-5. After identifying the study books for all levels of study, Dr. Brodie called attention to upcoming events and the varied forms for convention activities. Among those were informational materials for the Ministers' Wives and Widows' Fellowship Retreat, Young Adult Department Missions Prayer Breakfast, and "Dr. Luella D. Edwards Mission-A-Thon", and the Youth Department Special Projects information. She announced that the Executive Board has approved that minimal giving for Self-Denial be five dollars (\$5.00) and shared that the convention has a website. The website address is www.wbh-fmc.org. She further stated that the Young Adults were receiving foods for the "food bank" on this day. Pre-registration totaled more than nineteen hundred (1900). She gave the financial report and encouraged generous giving with checks being made payable to the Woman's Convention.

The workshop session theme was "Transforming Leaders Through the Ministry of Missions." Ms. Betty Adams invited the congregation to think on the question, "Who Is a Missionary?" She defined a missionary and outlined responsibilities mandated by Christ in "The Great Commission." Stressing the need for effective Christian communication and identifying whose responsibility it is, Ms. Blanche S. Wimberly outlined methods of communication and urged that missionaries be sure that their words and deeds matched their communication.

Ms. Linda Inman closed the workshop session with the topic, "Missionary Leaders." She identified types of leaders and gave helps for effectively communicating as a leader. Further, she shared other points pertinent to structure of the Woman's Convention.

Mrs. Bronnie Daniels led a ques-

tion and answer period, Third Vice President Mrs. Colene Stanley gave the historical background for "WBH&FMC Nehemiah Prayer Chain" and called for unity in our prayers. New Zion Baptist Church of Charlotte rendered a musical selection prior to recognition of Executive Board retirees, Mrs. Ida Dunston and Mrs. Marion Phillips. Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow gave the offertory appeal and prayer. Following was the presentation of the minister who was to bring the message. Mrs. Gloria Mack presented, the Reverend Jeremiah Robinson, who spoke from the theme, "Working Together." The scripture was from I Corinthians 12:18-20 and Ephesians 2:18-21. He emphasized that believers must work together and walk worthy of God's calling. Stay away from church and convention clicks and be what God wants us to be was his admonition to the congregation. Urging that believers work together and be blessed by God, he closed by leading the congregation in "Lord, You Sure Have Been Good to Me." Reverend Robinson gave the benediction.

Under the leadership of Director Vanessa Gregory, the Young Adults witnessed an informative and inspiring session. Topics and activities for young adults included "My Commitment" and "Communicating the Leaders' Role in Recruitment and Retention." President Erica Barnhill gave the Mission overview. Youth Supervisor, Mrs. Ellender LeMay, presided during the Youth session. Vernice Lassiter, youth president, directed the group through their workshop schedule as presenters shared information related to the officers' duties and convention objectives. The workshop segment involved topical discussions and a question-answer period.

Attendees left more inspired and enlightened, having been the recipients of a wealth of information, which was imparted by presenters and other participants. Seniors, Young Adults and Youth were given a "charge" by which to return to their respective local settings to be more effective mis-

MISSIONS PRAYER PIZZA PARTY

Sponsored by

The Youth Department

of the

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention
Auxiliary to GBSC

Time and Place To Be Announced, Winston-Salem

Approximately 250 spaces will be reserved (first come, first served). The advance donation is \$7.00 per person, and \$8.00 at the door per person. The donation, along with form, should be sent no later than July 12, 2002, so that the ticket(s) can be mailed to you before the Convention. It is not planned that tickets be sold on site at the time of the event. Supervisors and Conventional Youth are invited.

(A feature of interest will be presented)

MISSIONS PRAYER PIZZA PARTY
Youth Department, WBH&FMC

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Amount Enclosed _____ Number of Tickets Desired _____

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sionaries and to seek to "Transform Communication."
the Family Through Christian

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Role of the Local Church Regarding Health *By Charolette Leach, M.S., Physical Fitness Consultant & Anita Holmes, JD, MPH, Exec. Director*

Jesus said in John 10: 10, "I am come that they may have life, and that they might have it more abundantly". What exactly constitutes abundant life?

Since the main purpose of the death of Christ on the cross was for our souls to be saved in order that we would be able to live eternally with God, this abundant life definitely refers to salvation. The thought of spending eternity in heaven is wonderful, but Jesus also knew that before we reached eternity, we had a life to live on this earth.

Considering the definition of abundance from Webster, the life that Jesus refers to is to be abounding and plentiful. To which areas of life do you think Jesus was referring? Was he talking about our finances? Maybe he was considering our marriages and families. Did he mean that we would abound in our careers? Maybe he was saying that we would have plenty of money. If we are in poor health and lack stamina and energy, how abundant is our life? If we are angry much of the time and have a hard time dealing with people, does this point to abundance in life?

Is it possible that Jesus was including all aspects of life when he talked about why he came, even to include our health? This probably is the case, when you consider the words of II John 2, "Beloved I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth". John placed emphasis and priority on being in health. We, as Christians should heed these words, and should place emphasis and priority on improving and maintaining our health.

Where does the local church fit with regard to promoting health? Many people need additional encouragement to practice healthy lifestyles. We may find it difficult to routinely exercise, eat in moderation, and practice stress-reducing behavior. Maybe life is too busy, or we don't easily see the importance.

A significant role of the local church

with regard to health is to encourage steps proven beneficial toward health improvement. This can involve any aspect of health. Your church may encourage physical health by having a walking ministry, or offering gospel aerobics. A health ministry at a local church may offer a class that discusses proper ways to handle stress.

Encouragement toward proper eating may include education sessions and cooking demonstrations on lowering sugar, fat, and caloric intake. How much a church does is dependent on many variables. Are there persons in your congregation who are well suited to head up these ministries? How will it be funded? One critical question to ask is "How interested is the congregation in promoting health? One thing that you will probably find in all congregations is that there is at least some degree of interest in improving health. It may take some time and effort to find out what should be offered. Each congregation is unique, with health ministries differing between congregations.

The Office of Health and Human Services (OHHS) would like to identify those churches within the Convention that have health ministries and gather some general information about their areas of focus and activities. This will be very helpful in planning activities that may facilitate sharing among health ministries and in identifying churches that may be interested in selected health related information and programs. To assist in gathering this information, please complete the Health Ministry Form on this page (or a copy of the form) and either mail or fax to:

Office of Health and Human Services
GBSC of NC, Inc.
301 Glenwood Ave., Suite 270
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-1452
(919) 831-4249 (Fax)

Name of Church
Church Address
Church Tel. No.
Church Fax. No. (If applicable)
GBSC Association
Name of Health Ministry
Chairperson or Leader(s) of Health Ministry
Current Health Programs (Attach additional sheet if needed):

Name of Program	Brief Description

What do you believe are the congregation's five most significant health problems (Please list in order of importance)?

1
2
3
4
5

Additional Comments:

Name of person Completing Form

Address:

Telephone Number: Fax Number:

E-mail Address: Date Form Completed

Present age continues

us, individually and collectively, go forth as people of God using our gifts, talents, and resources to win the world for Christ. The challenge is now and we are well able to possess this land.

Let us resolve that this convention is well able to share with local churches in equipping and encouraging as we serve the present age.

AUXILIARY NEWS

ELECTION PROTOCOL FOR 2002 GBSC, INC AUXILIARY UNITY SESSION

If you are seeking an Officer of the Congress please write a letter stating your intent to run for the specific position to the Chairman of the Congress Election Nominating Committee, Dr. David Forbes. Mail your letter to GBSC Headquarters on or before July 1, 2002.

If you are seeking an Officer of the Usher's Convention please write a letter stating your intent to run for the specific position to The Usher's Election Nominating Committee. Mail to GBSC Headquarters on or before July 1, 2002.

Baptist Headquarters
603 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2338
800-639-GBSC - 919-821-7466 - 919-836-0061 FAX
alogan@gbsc.org

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE: JULY 15, 2002

During the business session of the Laymen's League Session, July 15, 2002 the nominating committee will present Officers to the body. The Laymen "Messengers" will vote on the nominating committee report.

THE CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: JULY 16-18, 2002

The election of all Officers for the Congress of Christian Education of the GBSC will take place at Martin Street Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC., July 17, 2002. The procedures are as follows,

Be present at Martin Street Baptist Church, on Tuesday July 16, 2002 at 2:30 PM to certify your candidacy. This process will enable the Congress and GBSC Election Committees to make a Ballot to be used during the election process. On Wednesday July 17, 2002 from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM Candidates will be allotted time to make remarks before the session.

Churches shall represent and enroll before their Messengers can vote. Each voter must have a Badge in order to enter the voting area.

Voting will take place in a designated area, at Martin Street Baptist Church on Wednesday, July 17, 2002: Beginning at 2 PM Only certified voters will be permitted to cast ballots.

The Election Committee will notify us during our Wednesday night program whether or not run-offs are necessary. If there be any we will Cast Ballots, Thursday Morning, 9 AM to 10 AM July 18, 2002. The Committee will prepare to introduce the new Officers.

At or about 12 Noon on Thursday July 18, 2002 the new Slate of Officers to serve The Congress of Christian Education until 2006 will be introduced, installed and charged during worship.

THE USHER'S CONVENTION JULY 19-20, 2002

The election of all Officers for the Usher's Convention of the General Baptist State Convention will be held at Martin Street Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC., July 20 2002. The procedures are as follows,

Be present at Martin Street Baptist Church, on Friday, July 19 2002 at 2:00 PM to certify your candidacy. This process will enable the Usher's and GBSC Election Committees to make a Ballot to be used during the election process. On

2002

CHURCH VOTING ELECTION FEE REQUIREMENTS CONGRESS & USHERS

CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE OF \$200.00

EACH CHURCH SHALL PAY REGISTRATION FEE
 BASED ON POPULATION OF CHURCH – PLEASE SEE GBSC
 CONSTITUTION – ARTICLE X .

VOTING MESSENGERS ARE DETERMINED BY GBSC CONSTI
 TUTION ARTICLE X.

EXAMPLE:

CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE \$200.00

CHURCH VOTING REGISTRATION FEE 35.00

(BASED ON CHURCH POPULATION – ARTICLE X)

church fee of \$35.00 entitles church to 3 voting messengers

TOTAL CHURCH COST TO VOTE 235.00

ALL VOTING MESSENGERS WILL RECEIVE A VOTING BADGE
AND KIT

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF GBSC CONGRESS AND USHERS
ELECTION FORMS TO GBSC HEADQUARTERS - JUNE 24, 2002

* All non-voting messengers shall pay \$10.00 registration fee.

Friday July 19, 2002 from 7:00 PM to 7:30 PM Candidates will be allowed to maker statements before the body.

Churches shall represent and enroll before their Messengers can vote. Each voter must have a Badge in order to enter the voting area.

Voting will take place in a designated area, at Martin Street Baptist Church on Saturday, July 20, 2002: Beginning at 10 AM. Only certified voters will be permitted to cast ballots.

The Election Committee will notify us of results at 12 Noon. The new officers will be introduced and installed at that time.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTES

Question of the Month:

How effective are Hip-Hop Ministries in the Church?

"I feel that with the young generation main stream being hip-hop, I come to recognize that God is so powerful, He can use hip-hop to draw youth. I also understand this is not traditional music for church but God is tearing down the wall of tradition so we might receive Him in his full omnipotent. In closing, we are limited but God is unlimited. Be blessed."

Minister A. M. Lyons
Associate Pastor
New Providence Baptist Church
Fuquay Varina, N. C.

To God Be the Glory!

Greetings in the name of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Beginning this month, the Baptist Informer will offer response to the QUESTION OF THE MONTH. Last month the question was "How effective are Hip-Hop Ministries in the Church?"

Minister A. M. Lyons' response is featured on the left.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

How do you feel about the Priest who are being charged with child molestation? Should they be thrown out of the Church? How can we make sure this does not happen in our churches?

Please send your responses to:

acoleyevent@msn.com. And feel free to call me at (919) 956-7673 if you have comments, questions or suggestions.

Church News is not coming in like I would like to see it. I know there are revivals, church anniversaries, pastor anniversaries that are taking place. Let your fellow GBSC members know what you are doing. This may give them ideas or they may just be interested in attending if they knew about the program.

The goal is to make the *Baptist Informer* truly what its name suggest, a vehicle to inform Baptists. That will not happen without your input. Moderators and District Leaders, may I suggest that you appoint someone in your association to be the reporter

with the responsibility of sending news to the *Baptist Informer* for the churches in your district and/or association.

I know this sounds like adding more work

to your already busy schedule but it will be worth it when your church is full because it was seen in the *Baptist Informer*.



Phyllis Coley
Publisher

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

Joining hands continues

called to "go ye therefore" and reach the masses, teaching them what it means to be a part of God's kingdom.

Don Bouldin, executive team leader for the BSC congregational services group asked, "Why are we in existence except to get the good news out? The potential is in this room to change the spiritual fabric of North Carolina." Bouldin referenced the millions of people in North Carolina who do not know or believe the gospel of Christ. The churches have a responsibility to share the good news, he said.

The churches must remember that God wants churches to be "good news clubs" rather than introverted, selfish religious societies, Bouldin said. But "we spend our time doing convention business, and not doing the business of the convention." Bouldin said churches are called to bear fruit, but some churches have left the fruit-bearing business and started selling firewood that makes an impressive blaze but burns out quickly. While Christians are called to be fruit bearers, Bouldin said churches are hampered by members acting as fruit consumers who take but don't give, fruit inspectors who bear no fruit but critique others, fruit flies "who only show up when there's a stink," and even "fruit loops"

who "aren't on the cutting edge but over it." To be effective in bearing fruit, Bouldin said Christians must renew their commitment to love all people, even those who are different and hard to love.

Gardner Taylor, who was pastor of the Concord Baptist Church of Christ in New York for 42 years, praised the black Baptists of North Carolina for remaining united despite "fractiousness" on the national level. "I hope the day is not far in the future that we Baptists will all be together," he said. Taylor challenged believers to test their faith. "Any Christian who does not in some sense come into tension with civil authority and even religious authority may have his Christian credentials under question," he said. "We have so civilized and domesticated the faith that there is no tension," Taylor said, but "there ought to be tension between what is and the word of God." Instead, "we have a slick, accommodationist pseudo-Christianity that finds comfort in whatever is rather than what ought to be."

The Baptist State Convention was founded in Greenville in 1830, as an outgrowth of the "North Carolina Benevolent Society." The General Baptist State Convention was founded

in Goldsboro in 1867 as "The General Association of the Colored Baptists of North Carolina." Since few African Americans at the time could read or write, officials of the Baptist State Convention, meeting in Goldsboro at the same time, provided some assistance with organization and the writing of a constitution for the new convention. Currently, the GBSC has approximately 600,000 members in

about 2,000 churches. The BSC counts 1.2 million members in just more than 4,000 churches and missions.

The two conventions cooperate in various ways, including a plan that provides retirement and insurance benefits for GBSC pastors and staff through the BSC's link with the Southern Baptist Annuity Board.

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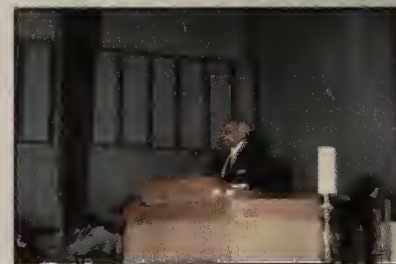
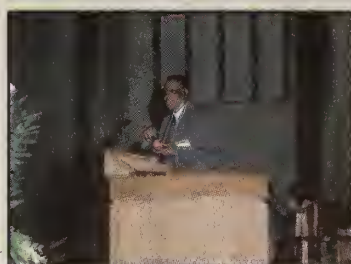
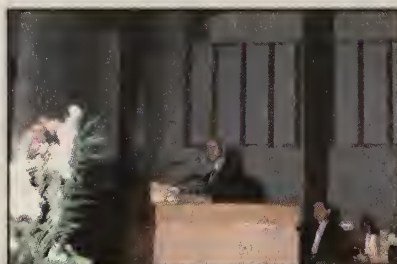
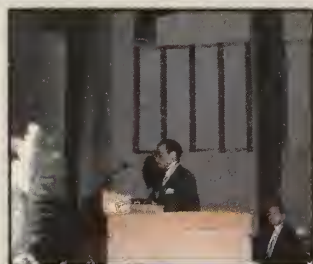
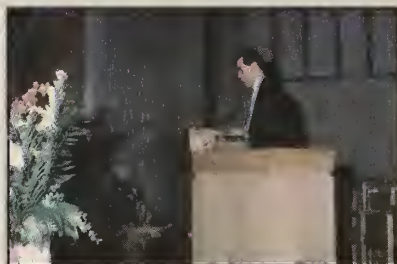
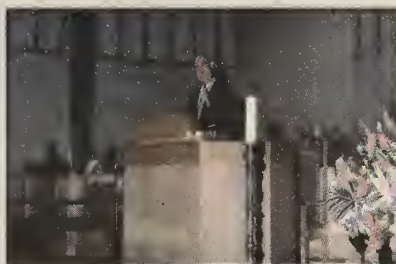
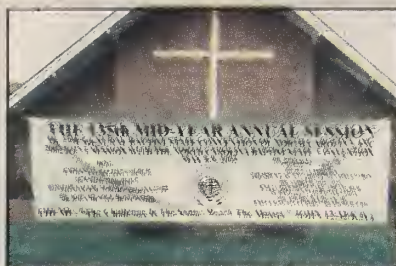
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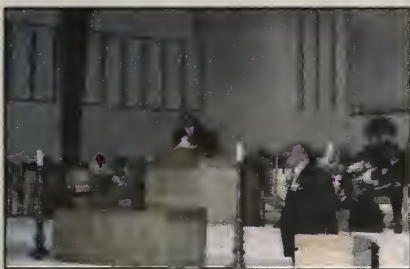
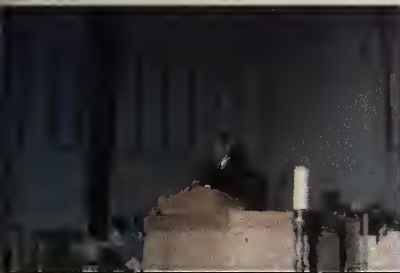
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Highlights of the 2002 Midyear Session



Highlights of the 2002 Midyear Session



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YOUTH CORNER

FATHERS' DAY HISTORY

By Delores Griffey

It is said that the first Father's day celebration was conceived in Spokane, Washington State, 1909. Sonora Louise Smart Dodd, the daughter of Civil War veteran William Smart, proposed a day to honour fathers around the country. Her father, who after the death of his wife during childbirth in 1898, had raised her and her 5 siblings alone. Inspired by this, she wanted to let him, and the world, know how special he was to her. The idea is said to have come to her whilst listening to a

Mother's day sermon.

After Sonora became an adult she realized the selflessness her father had shown in raising his children as a single parent. It was her father that made all the parental sacrifices and was, in the eyes of his daughter, a courageous, selfless, and loving man. Sonora's father was born in June, so she chose to hold the first Father's day celebration in Spokane, Washington on the 19th of June 1910.

By 1916 the idea had spread across the country, and was even promoted by President Woodrow Wilson. In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge sup-

ported the idea of a national Father's day. In 1956 Father's day was recognized by a Joint Resolution of Congress. It wasn't until 1966 that President Lyndon Johnson proclaimed the third Sunday of every June, the official Father's day. Later in 1972 President Nixon established a permanent national observation of the day. The 19th of June 1910, Spokane Washington, was originally when and where the first Father's day celebrations were held, being in the home and birth month of William Smart.

Harry C. Meek is also given credit for founding the idea of Father's day.

A President of a Chicago Lions Club Meeks gave speeches to various groups about the need to honour fathers through out the United States. In appreciation for his work, the Lions Clubs of America presented him with a gold watch, with the inscription "Originator of Father's day," on his birthday, June 20, 1920.

Remember that Father doesn't have to mean only your biological father. Use this day to tell all your "dads" how much you care about them.

Scripture Reference (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

NEW PASTOR'S CORNER

By Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter
Pastor / Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church
Fayetteville, North Carolina

To aspire to leadership in God's kingdom requires us to be willing to pay the price higher than others are willing to pay. The toll of true leadership is heavy, and the more effective the leadership, the higher the cost. The words of our Lord in Joshua chapter one, in the first nine verses of this chapter, God gives Joshua the instructions that would carry him throughout his ministry. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. (Joshua 1:5) God knew in advance every situation and every problem that Joshua would face.

Every leader must be willing to sacrifice of his or her self. The sacrifice comes in many ways; loneliness, fatigue, criticism and rejection. Just to name a few. We must be willing to pick up our cross daily and follow Jesus. And whosoever of you will be chief, shall be servant of all. "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life for ransom for many." (Mark

10:44-45)

Spiritual leaders are not elected, nominated nor appointed by the church; rather they are called by God to serve His purpose and people. Only God can make a man or a woman a spiritual leader. Leadership begins first with a relationship with Jesus and a call to serve. A spiritual leader began his or her leadership with an audience of one, God himself. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required. (Luke 12:48b)

Spiritual leaders recognize that all of their help comes from the Lord. We will experience many hardships and joys during the life of the ministry. Spiritual leaders are called to give themselves in the mission as well as the ministry. God's chosen leaders be called to be faithful to the work of the ministry.

A chosen leader of God must be ahead of his or her followers. Because of this he or she often lives with loneliness. There are areas in our lives that we must walk alone. In our humanness, we need the company of others and want to share our heavy loads with a friend or what seems to be a friend. Leadership is a very lonely position on this Christian journey. The Old

Testament prophets were lonely men. Now we can understand why it is so important to have a relationship with Jesus first. That relationship must be nurtured by reading the word of God and getting a lot of knee exercise.

Fatigue is a word all leaders know very well. Nevertheless, let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. (Galatians 6:9) The spirit of the welfare state does not produce leaders. Leaders must be willing to rise early and work late to expend great efforts in diligent study and faithful work.

Leaders have been criticized from the beginning of time. If you are doing anything for the Kingdom of God, working in the vineyards, criticism will come. It is so easy to sit on the sideline and criticize one another, but what are you doing for the Kingdom? Is anyone getting saved under your leadership? Are lives being changed? Are you making a difference? Or, are you still sitting there making excuses! The cost of leadership is very expensive.

Rejection is something all chosen leaders feel. Many of us experience and all of us are aware of what it feels like to be rejected. Jesus was rejected

by His own and they received Him not. As pastors, spiritual leaders, Christian leaders, we must understand the price of leadership. Then and only then are we able to survive the cost of leadership. As long as we stay focused on the prize of the higher calling of Christ Jesus, we will make it in life and make a difference in the lives of God's people.

We must understand that we are chosen vessels to do the work and the will of the One who sent us. Just like God assured Joshua, I will never fail thee nor forsake thee. As spiritual leaders we must be strong and of good courage; we must not be afraid. As new pastors we are challenged daily. When we face trials, tribulations, and temptations, we must recognize that God is with us to face every challenge. God has already equipped us to be more than conquerors as leaders in the ministry and in every aspect of our lives. As chosen leaders of God we must trust Him and seek His divine direction. Let the word of God become life through you. Meditate on the word day and night and do all that is written in it and our ways shall be made prosperous and we shall have good success.

NEWS

Rev. R. L. Sanders Receives His Masters

On June 8, 2002, Reverend Robert Sanders received his Master of Arts

Ministry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Reverend Sanders is the pastor of the Antioch



Sanders

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Monroe, North Carolina. Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is the home church of Pastor Julius McDonald, the President of the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina. Reverend Sanders is currently BI-vocational and has served an honorable years in the United States Armed Forces where he was a recipient of the Bronze Star Award and held the rank of Captain. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree

in Electrical Engineering from Tuskegee University and holds an additional masters in the area of Business Administration.

Reverend Sanders has literally preached and ministered around the world to diverse congregations and individual souls. However, the joy of his heart is being pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. A church that has remained spiritually driven for 124 years and full of African American History from the Rosenwald School which still stands on its property to the rich traditional heritage shared by the church elders. Reverend Sanders sees Antioch as a church spiritually poised for the success of God's work and budding with new life. Reverend Sanders plans to continue his educational growth in God's word by pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree from Carolina University of Theology. He is married to Anita D. (Locus) Sanders, and they have three children, Joshua, Jessica and Ashley.

ist Church continues

Regular Baptist: Regular Baptist were comprised chiefly of the town people and those of better education. Separate Baptist were critical of the Regular Baptist, because they felt they were not strict enough in requiring new church members to give a clear evidence of a conversion experience. Essentially those who remained connected to the Church of England were considered Regular Baptist.

Antioch Missionary Baptist a Short synopsis The Reverend W.W. Colley, a native of Virginia and a Negro missionary to Africa under the foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, was mainly instrumental in the organization of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Convention at Montgomery Alabama, in November 1880. Colley was its first corresponding secretary, a position which he occupied until 1893 when he returned

to Africa with five other missionaries sent out by the new Convention. In an effort to unite all Negro Baptists for missions, the American National Baptist Convention was organized by six hundred delegates representing seventeen states, meeting in the city of St. Louis on August 25, 1886. The Reverend W. J. Simmons, of Louisville, Kentucky, was elected the first president. The forming of this body, however, did not solve the problem created by the multiplicity of missionary agencies among colored Baptists. In 1893 another was organized in Washington, D.C., under the name of the Baptist National Educational Convention. By 1895 it was possible to unite Negro Baptists in one body, the National Baptist Convention of America, organized at Atlanta, Ga. It was to function through a Foreign Mission Board, a Board of Education, and a Board of

Missions. In 1915 the Convention was divided over a dispute concerning control of property and publications. The larger segment was incorporated as the National Baptist Convention of the U.S.A., Inc. The smaller segment retained the original name by court action. Both organizations represent today a combined membership of approximately ten millions, and exert a much greater influence in American life than becomes evident to the casual reader of Baptist history. Their story is yet to be told adequately.

The New Kid on the Block
The Full Gospel Baptist Church Movement

1. What type of governmental structure do they use?
2. What is meant by full gospel?
3. What does it offer?
4. How does that differ from what you

now have?

5. What are you leaving?
6. Is it worth it?
7. Is this new, or something old repackaged?

From W. E. B. Dubois's book: A Prayer For Dark People:

In these first beginnings of the new life of the world, renew in us the resolution to persist in the good work we have begun. Give us strength of body and strength of mind and unfaltering determination to carry out that which we know to be good and right. Forgive all wavering in the past service of Thy cause and make us strong to go forward in spite of the doubts of our friends and our enemies and in spite of our own distrust in ourselves. Out of the death of winter comes ever and again the resurrection of spring; so out of evil bring good, O God, and out of doubt determination. Amen.

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ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE NEWS

Who Says Singles Cannot Adopt?

Think of at least 10 qualities that describe you. Once you have thought of those qualities, write them on paper. I am going to list some qualities that I think describes you. Those qualities are: God-fearing, loving, giving, supportive, caring, making a difference, family-oriented, active, dependable and single. If these qualities describe yourself then you would be perfect to become a single adoptive or foster care parent. Who says singles cannot adopt if they possess these qualities?

In 1970, if an interested single had decided to go to an adoption agency and apply for a child, unfortunately, they would have been denied. There would not have been a second thought. Back then there were laws in some states against single parent adoption. Now, thousands of children are staying in a loving permanent home with single men or women who have decided to become parents. In the last 20 years there has been a sizable increase in the number of single parent adoptions.

In this new century more independent singles are now becoming adoptive and foster care parents. They go through the same mandatory parenting training classes as married couples do. Single parents give just as much love as a married couple does. For example, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry hosted a conference at a church in Greensboro. At this conference there were informative seminars about adoption and foster care. One of the seminars that really touched me was the testimony of young woman and teenager who became a family.

The teenager gave a vivid picture of what she went through as a child. She mentioned that her family situation was not good. Eventually, she was taken away from her family and placed into a foster home. She always felt that something good was in store for her. She started attending this church and met a young woman who is a member of this church and they began a friend-mentor relationship.

Did I mention that young woman is single? For months their relationship grew and they became more than just friends. One day while the two were spending time together she jokingly asked her friend "don't you want to adopt me"? This time around the young lady thought that she was just joking. She was not even thinking about adopting a child and at that a teenager.

What could she do with a teenager that is already set in their way? The young woman really did not think about adoption until her young friend mentioned it. She prayed and thought about it. The next time the two were spending time with each other and the woman jokingly said, "What would you say if I wanted to adopt you"? The teenager thought that she was playing a trick on her. She asked the woman if she was serious. The woman responded by saying "yes".

The woman went through all the required background checks and parenting courses that perspective parents went through. Once she completed everything the easy part came when she received the news that the teenager was clear for adoption.

Since then their relationship has blossomed into a true mother-daughter relationship.

At the end of the testimony the young woman said something about her daughter that I will not forget. She said, "I believe God has something in store for everyone". "I did not know that I was going to become an adoptive parent. If God has planned for me to do this, then may the work I have done speak for me". The young woman was very sincere with her emotions with making the statement. Who says that singles cannot adopt? The answer is no one. The only one who can truthfully answer that question is our savior.



By Earl Horton
(pictured above)
GBSC Adoption & Foster Care
Ministry - Director of Public
Relations

The Faith Community: The Hotline Operators of Faith

Hello! You have reached the Adoption and Foster Care Faith based Community Hotline. Please touch 2 if you are interested in Adoption, 3 if you are interested in foster care and touch 11 if you are interested in both Adoption and Foster Care. Once your selection has been made please listen to the instructions on how to become an Adoptive and/or Foster Care parent.

The Faith Based Initiatives across the nation are forming partnerships to address the issue of thousands of children in need of permanency in their lives. Under the leadership and guidance of Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President and Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Director of General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. is assisting the State of North Carolina and the nation with bridging the gap to permanency for children of different cultural and religious backgrounds.

The Adoption and Foster Care Ministry staff has a sense of renewed commitment and heightened anticipation of its mission to identify families for children. Recently, President Bush has pledged his support by establishing the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives to take the lead responsibility to strengthen and expand grassroots and faith-base services. I am proud to be affiliated with our Convention in that our leadership has been at the forefront with establishing strength-based projects as expressed by President Bush. The Adoption and Foster Care Ministry project and other Community-based projects under the leadership of Dr. Fuller and Dr. Logan have demonstrated

If you are single and interested in becoming an adoptive or foster care parent please call the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry at 919-754-8333.

ed a leap of faith and their willingness to vessel.

The North American Council Adoptable Children (NACAC) profiled several successful programs from the faith community. The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Inc. (GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry) was one of the programs featured for our recruitment of African-American singles and couples in the faith community in North Carolina. Last August, NACAC invited the project staff to present a workshop on recruitment of African-Americans in the faith community at their National Conference. The seminar illustrated our approach in recruitment of families within the community.

The NC Division of Social Services and the GBSC established this recruitment project in 1998. The GBSC has taken the initiative to go into African-American churches and present the need of finding permanent homes for African-American children. The ministry also recruits volunteers within local congregations to coordinate recruitment activities, which is not limited to Baptist denominations in North Carolina.

With the support from the Faith Communities and with the renewed commitments by the Federal and State government the urge of identifying families for children will be not only a national task but a statewide one also. Please contact Mr. Earl Horton or ReAnthonette Wright for additional information concerning the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. Staff is available to attend conferences, community day functions, and other church services. For more information: 919-754-8333 or 919-754-8800.

Meet Alex & Ciara, 2 beautiful children looking for a loving home, on Page 24

mission report continues

entation promotes Christian Education and training. You can also order your Bibles, robes, hymnbooks and Sunday school supplies from our bookstore.

The GBB also expanded to Elizabeth City, NC, with a branch at the Saint Stephens Missionary Baptist Church, Moderator Ricky Banks, Pastor. Support our stores. Please order your materials from us.

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

The *Baptist Informer* continues to be the leading African-American religious publication in the country. We are excited about the paper. We encourage every church and General Baptist to subscribe. Send your annual subscriptions to Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338. RATES WILL INCREASE September 1, 2002.

DISASTER RELIEF & HOUSING

We are grateful and appreciative of the work of the Reverend Dr. Thurman Everett and the GBSC, Inc., Housing Committee. The GBSC continues to respond to the tragedy following Hurricane Floyd and to make home ownership possible for any person that desires a home of his or her own.

We have received several grants for Hurricane Floyd survivor projects in Princeville and Navassa, NC. The committee also is working with churches, associations and families interested in home ownership, credit relief and predatory lending. We thank the support of local, county, State and federal officials.

THE MILLENNIUM STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The GBSC, Inc., is in the midst of our first Millennium Stewardship Campaign. The Campaign is headed and coordinated by Dr. W. B. Lewis, Reverend Clinton Feemster, Mrs. Elizabeth Young; along with Mr. Dexter Perry of A&B Asset Management Service Inc., coordinator of our General Baptist Foundation, Inc.; Mr. Ulysses Bell, The Bell Group and Mr. Willie T. Closs, Jr., North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company. The project seeks to create a perma-

nent endowment for the GBSC and GBF. Call 919-858-7817, 919-816-9241 fax, dexterp@bellsouth.net for more information.

PRAY FOR THE WORK

Call us at 800-639-GBSC or 919-821-7466, or fax 919-836-0061, email alogan@gbsc.org, www.gbsc.org or write to Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC, 27601-2338.

Ten Myths continues

ardly in Egypt to protect the infants who to death. (Exodus 1:15-21) Remember Rahab, who disobeyed the authorities in Jericho because she knew God was with the Israelite spies. Her faith saved her household and places her in the lineage of Christ. (Joshua 2:1-2; 6:23-25; James 2:25)

7. Women are more easily deceived than men.

Women have never been the major source of deception during any period of church history. Sin and evil are sources of deception for both men and women. (2 Thess. 2:9-10 NKJV)

8. Women cannot be fulfilled or spiritually effective without a husband and children.

Scripture says that our lives can be made complete by only one thing: a constant, abiding relationship with Christ. This is true for men and women alike all of us are called to know Him. (Romans 8:17)

9. Women should not work outside the home.

Jesus wants His witness everywhere. We need godly women in the workplace. We need godly women in government. We need godly women in the media, in every profession. How can we be "the light of the world" if we take half the light we have and hide it under a bushel? (Matthew 5:14)

10. Women must obediently submit to their husbands in all situations.

Only submitted men of God are apt heads of households. (Eph. 5:25-33; Col. 3:19) It is so important that women wait for God to send husbands in the "word." As we wait, we should prepare for a Holy union.

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03. God Said It, I Believe & That Settles It / It All Adds Up
04. Burn Up Or Burn Out For God
05. Busted Britches From Straddling The Fence
06. Dangerous Minds
07. Don't Even Think About It
08. Fired Up By The Holy Ghost
09. Are You Full Of The Stuff
10. Let's Get On Board
11. God Picked Me To Be On His Side
12. Grace On The Race
13. Grow Up Or Blow Up
14. Hang In There
15. He Lifted Me Up Out Of The Miry Clay
16. Look Where The Lord Has Brought Me From
17. If My People
18. We Can Do It For A New Day Has Come
19. I Know What Prayer Can Do
20. Put Some Clothes On Child
21. A Right Thing In A Wrong Time
22. The Man Who Had Everything But The Right Thing
23. Soap For The Soul
24. Stay On The Lord's Side
25. If You Take One Step He'll Take Two
26. Stepping In Your Own Mess
27. I Can't Lose With The Stuff I Use
28. You Can't Touch This
29. Warm In A Cold Situation
30. That's The Way He Died But That's Not The End Of The Story
31. What You See Is What You Get
32. What's Faith Got To Do With It
33. You Can't Make It Without God
34. I Just Want To Say... "Thank You Lord"
35. A Heart Like Thine
36. Just A Closer Walk With Thee
37. Give Me A Clean Heart So I Can Serve You
38. What Ever The Problem God Has The Answer
39. Peace - In The Midst Of My Storm
40. I Am On The Right Road, Now!
41. A Good Man In A Bad Situation
42. Good Medicine For A Bad Ailment
43. Stand Up And Testify
44. Bad Boys! What You'll Going To Do When He Comes For You
45. Angels Just Keep Watching Over Me
46. Go Ahead! Make My Day
47. A Trip To The Cross
48. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! He Is Somebody's Preacher
49. On The Day Of Pentecost
50. Jesus Is All That! And A Whole Lot More
51. Muddy Putty In The Potters Hands
52. When Stress Controls You Jesus Consoles You
53. Black Men And Women, Changing A Generation
54. I Am Black But I Am Somebody
55. Staying Afloat In A Sinking Boat
56. He That Has A Friend Must Show Himself Friendly
57. Victory Is Mine
58. Occupy Till I Come
59. A Man On A Mission/The Borrowed Ax
60. Busy In God's Business
61. That's Just Like Mama
62. He's Alive And I Am Glad About It
63. What The World Needs Now Is Love Sweet Love
64. I Moved From My Old House And My Old Friends
65. I Just Want To Know Why
66. What Do You Do When Life Is Not Fair
67. Why Do Bad Things Happen To Good People
68. What Do You Do When Your Brook Runs Dry
69. Diagnosis From Dr. Jesus, Go And See The Dr.
70. Who Is This Man
71. What Would Jesus Do
72. If I Could But Touch The Hem Of His Garment
73. Come See A Man Twenty-One (21) New Sermons
74. Wounded By The Ones You Love
75. How To Stand In The Storms Of Life
76. Don't Quit
77. Speak To Me Lord Jesus
78. Get Behind Me Satan
79. Good Things Happen When Jesus Shows Up
80. Where Are You? Adam
81. Committed Because I Am Submitted
82. Are You A Disciplined Disciple
83. Answering God's Call
84. Too Blessed To Be Stressed
85. Thrilled By His Will
86. These Things Only Come By Prayer and Fasting
87. Just Like Daddy
88. I Got Two Wing And The World Can't Do Me No Harm
89. The Prayer Of Jabez
90. I Will Meet You On The Other Side
91. Can't Come Right Now, I Am On Duty
92. What A Mighty God We Serve
93. When Life Makes You Wonder
94. Fighting Mad

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SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CHURCH BONDS

■ What Are Church Bonds?

Church Bonds are certificates issued to provide funds for buildings or some other financial need. Governments, corporations, utilities and other non-profit organizations issue Bonds to finance many kinds of projects.

■ Are Bonds Like Stock?

No. Stock represents ownership, while Bonds represent borrowed money. With Bonds, the borrower (church) agrees to repay the investors their principal with interest.

■ How Is Interest Paid?

Simple interest Bonds pay the interest by check each six months. Compound interest Bonds accrue and compound the interest each six months with principal and interest paid at maturity. For the interest rates on our Bonds, consult the back of this brochure.

■ What Secures My Investment?

The prospectus includes a section entitled *Security for the Bonds*. Questions with regard to the security of the bonds are addressed in this section.

■ What Denominations Are Available?

Bonds are available in ½ year increments in any multiple of \$250.

■ How Do I Purchase A Church Bond?

Bonds are offered by churches only by means of a prospectus, which sets forth the information you need to know before making the investment. Copies of the prospectus are available from either the church or the broker.

■ How Do I Redeem My Bonds?

You really do not have to do anything, since the bonds are issued in book entry form. Upon maturity, the Trustee will automatically mail you a check for your principal plus any accrued interest. You will receive an acknowledgment within thirty days of purchase that the Trustee has registered your church Bond(s). Be sure to inform the Trustee if your address changes.

■ Can The Church Pay The Bond Off Before Maturity?

Yes, the church can redeem any or all of its Bonds on three-month intervals provided the owner of record receives a thirty-day notice. The Church would pay the accrued interest through the date of the "call."

■ When Does The Interest Begin?

The interest begins to accrue on the issue date provided the escrow agent receives payment for the Bond(s) on or before that date. Otherwise, interest will begin on the date payment is received by the escrow agent.

■ Can Bonds Be Used To Fund IRA Accounts?

Yes. You can usually transfer (rollover) your present IRA or SEP funds into a Self-Directed Account. You then instruct your Trustee to purchase Bonds to fund that account.

■ Can I Cash My Church Bond At Any Time?

No. However you would be free to sell your Bond, give it away, or borrow money on it. You cannot redeem it, though, until it matures.

■ Is The Interest Taxable?

Yes, interest on church Bonds is taxable as ordinary income. The owner will receive a 1099 annually from the registrar.

History of the Church

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church of LaGrange, located in Lenoir County, was founded in 1871, during the reconstruction period for African-Americans in this country. Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church was one of the first African-American churches to be organized in Lenoir County. The organization of the church during these times not only made a theological statement of faith, but was an expression of the community's need and desire for an institutional base from which newly freed slaves and their children could launch a struggle for a better life. Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church spoke to several different needs. It provided a physical structure in which members could freely worship and declare their faith in Jesus as their Savior. The church also provided a meeting place for members and others to associate and served as a place where former slaves and their children could, for the first time in history, attain an education.

The sanctuary was purchased in 1871 and rebuilt in 1920 on their property located at 209 South Carey Street, LaGrange, North Carolina. The building has 3,562 square feet consisting of a vestibule with restrooms, pulpit area, a bathroom and choir room. The rear of the church has a lower level that is approximately 787 square feet and includes a bathroom, office, and storage room. The Sunday school rooms, nursery and older kitchen are located in the older part of the fellowship hall, which was constructed in 1973. During this time, Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church opened its doors to the first Meals on Wheels Program and the nutritional feeding program for Lenoir County elderly citizens. The success and popularity of this effort resulted in the Church purchasing a van in order to transport elderly citizens to the Church. In 1999 a 5,000 square foot Fellowship Hall was constructed.

Community Profile

LaGrange, North Carolina, has a population of approximately 3,000, with the surrounding area, Lenoir County, having an estimated population of 59,262. The Church is located near Wayne County Industrial Park, Lenoir Community College, LaGrange Elementary, Vernon Park & Mall and Frink Middle School. The Church is located near developing residential areas approximately one block west of downtown.

Homes in the area range in value from \$125,000 to \$200,000. Major employers include the Pepsi Bottling Company, Wal-Mart, BellSouth, Chevrolet, Lowes, Target and Sams Club.

Security for the Bond Issue

Estimated value 1.33 acres of land together with existing improvements thereon **\$735,000**

Membership

<u>Year</u>	<u>Membership</u>
2001.....	240
2000.....	210
1999.....	190

Capital Gifts Campaign

On July 1, 1999, the Church conducted a capital stewardship campaign in which written pledges were received from members totaling \$318,990 for the period ending December 31, 2001. As of December 31, 2001, the Church had received \$110,970 of such pledges, which funds were used to pay towards the costs of the fellowship hall and parking lot paving.

Proceeds of this Issue Will be Use to...

The Issuer now plans to pay off the outstanding indebtedness with Southern Bank and Trust Company and to pay costs of the renovation of the stained glass windows with proceeds from the Bonds of this issue.

Affiliations

- General Baptist State Convention, Raleigh, North Carolina
- Bear Creek Missionary Baptist Association, Goldsboro, North Carolina

INTEREST RATES

Maturities Annual Rates

.5 to 1.0 years.....	4.00%
1.5 to 2.5 years	4.75%
3.0 to 4.0 years	5.40%
4.5 to 6.0 years	5.95%
6.5 to 8.0 years	6.70%
8.5 to 10.0 years	7.00%

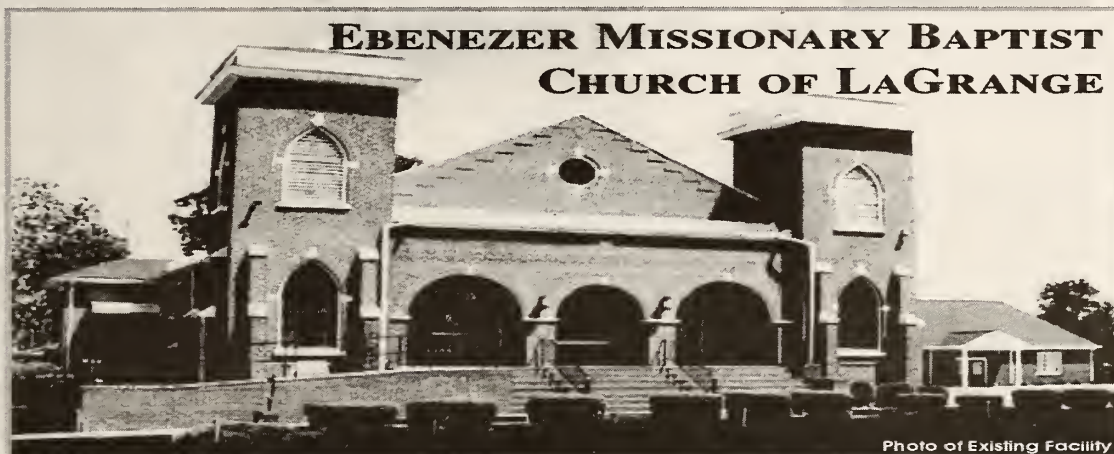
Bonds of this issue mature semi-annually on October 30 and April 30, with interest payable semi-annually. Some bonds pay the interest by check each six months, while others compound semi-annually with both principal and interest paid at maturity. The bonds are offered in multiples of \$250.00

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy. The offering is made only by the Prospectus to which reference is made for the complete information authorized in the sale of securities. These securities will not be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission being exempt securities under section 3 (a) (4) of the Securities Act of 1933 as amended. These securities will be exempt from registration or otherwise qualified for sale in all states in which they are offered and in which states Rives, Leavell & Co. is qualified to act as a Dealer or Broker.

\$232,000 General Mortgage Bond Issue

**Anticipated
Issue Date:**

April 30, 2002



LA GRANGE, NORTH CAROLINA

Yields:

**4.04%
through
7.12%**

**Semi-Annual Maturities:
6 months through 10 years**

National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD)
Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC)
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SIMPLE INTEREST INCOME CHART

Amount Invested/Semi-Annual Income*

Rates	Years	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
5.40%	3	\$540.00	\$270.00	\$135.00	\$27.00	\$13.50	\$6.75
5.40%	4	540.00	270.00	135.00	27.00	13.50	6.75
5.95%	5	595.00	297.50	148.75	29.75	14.88	7.44
5.95%	6	595.00	297.50	148.75	29.75	14.88	7.44
6.70%	7	670.00	335.00	167.50	33.50	16.75	8.38

COMPOUND INTEREST GROWTH CHART

Amount Invested/Maturity Value*

Rates	Years	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
4.00%	½	\$20,400.00	\$10,200.00	\$5,100.00	\$1,020.00	\$510.00	\$255.00
4.04% Annual Yield	1	20,808.00	10,404.00	5,202.00	1,040.40	520.20	260.10
4.75%	1½	\$21,459.11	\$10,729.56	\$5,364.78	\$1,072.96	\$536.48	\$268.24
4.81% Annual Yield	2	21,968.77	10,984.38	5,492.19	1,098.44	549.22	274.61
	2½	22,490.52	11,245.26	5,622.63	1,124.53	562.26	281.13
5.40%	3½	\$24,100.34	\$12,050.17	\$6,025.08	\$1,205.02	\$602.51	\$301.25
5.47% Annual Yield							
5.95%	4½	\$26,038.51	\$13,019.26	\$6,509.63	\$1,301.93	\$650.96	\$325.48
6.04% Annual Yield	5½	27,610.85	13,805.43	6,902.71	1,380.54	690.27	345.14
6.70%	6½	\$30,694.90	\$15,347.45	\$7,673.73	\$1,534.75	\$767.37	\$383.69
6.81% Annual Yield	7½	32,785.91	16,392.95	8,196.48	1,639.30	819.65	409.82
	8	33,884.24	16,942.12	8,471.06	1,694.21	847.11	423.55
7.00%	8½	\$35,893.51	\$17,946.76	\$8,973.38	\$1,794.68	\$897.34	\$448.67
7.12% Annual Yield	9	37,149.78	18,574.89	9,287.45	1,857.49	928.74	464.37
	9½	38,450.03	19,225.01	9,612.51	1,922.50	961.25	480.63
	10	39,795.78	19,897.89	9,948.94	1,989.79	994.89	497.45

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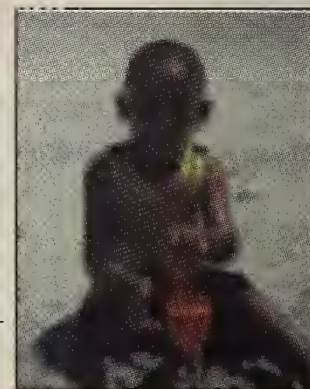
ADOPT ALEX AND
CIARA.

CIARA and ALEX

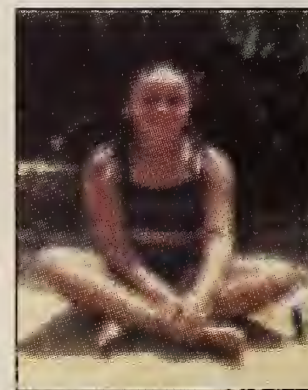
Introducing Ciara and Alex. Ciara and Alex are affectionate and very pleasant children. They have depended on each other their entire lives and hope a nice, loving family will adopt them both.

A Closer Look at Alex

Little Alex likes pre-school, but he can't wait to go to "Big Boys" school. He is an active, outgoing and social little boy who makes friends easily. He has good manners, behaves very well in public and doesn't mind doing chores around the house. Alex also likes to play with Haus and ride his bike. His favorite foods are hot dogs and candy, when he can get it. Alex, too, loves to get lots of attention and hugs. Alex has a speech problem that causes him to stutter, but he works with a speech therapist and is making steady progress on correcting it. **Birthday: June 30, 1997.**



Alex



Ciara

A Closer Look at Ciara

Ciara is a healthy, friendly little girl who loves attention, laughing and getting hugs. She makes friends very easily and is a joy to be around. Ciara loves to ride her bike, play dress up and shop at consignment shops with her foster mom. She also likes to play with her dog, Haus, and she has recently developed a great love for horses. Ciara faces some challenges academically and takes medication to help her stay focused in school. She works very hard in class and can do well, given some individual assistance.

Birthday: July 11, 1993

A Family for Ciara and Alex

This brother and sister need parents who can set limits and provide consistency, along with lots of attention and love. Ciara and Alex both respond well to praise and are easy kids to love and care for. (NC #045-1197) (NC #045-1198)

For more information about Ciara and Alex, or adoption in general, please call the NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care Network's toll free Hotline at 1-877-625-4731.

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10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

- Over 50 Historically Black Colleges & Universities
- Financial Aid/Scholarships Workshops
- ADA (American Disabilities Act) Workshop
- Middle School Standards, Policies, Procedures Workshop
- College Survival Skills 'Rap' Sessions
- Greek Displays
- Door Prizes
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June 22, 2002

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July 12 & 13, 2002

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Featuring Dr. Carolyn Showell

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Attn: Dr. Rudolph Tripp

12th—7PM Worship
13th—Workshops:
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ELECTION NEWS



LEONZO D. LYNCH CANDIDATE FOR GBSC 3rd VICE - PRESIDENT

Leonzo D. Lynch announces his candidacy for the office of 3rd Vice-President of the GBSC in the upcoming election to be held in October 2002.

Dr. Lynch is the 5th generation of the ministers in his family. He accepted the call into the ministry in 1981 and delivered his initial sermon on Palm Sunday of that year.

Since 1984, he has been in active service unto God as a Pastor. This ministry has taken him to four congregations in North Carolina: the Winn Chapel Baptist Church of Mt. Olive, NC; the Rock Spring Baptist Church of Creedmoor, NC; the Mt. Level Baptist Church of Durham, NC; - one congregation in South Carolina; the Long Branch Baptist Church of Greenville SC; and his current position at the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Charlotte, NC. He is the youngest son of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Lorenzo A. Lynch, Sr., of Durham, NC.

Dr. Lynch received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (May 1984), his Master of Divinity degree from Duke University Divinity School (May 1987), and his Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary (May 1997).

He has been very active in denominational work on the local, state, and national levels. A former member of the Durham interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, where he served as Chairman of the Program Committee, and Secretary. A former member of the East Cedar Grove Association, having served as Chairman of the Executive Board and Secretary of the Ordination Council. A former member of the Baptist Educational & Missionary Convention of South Carolina, where he served as Instructor in the Old Testament

Division of the State Congress.

He is currently Third Vice-Moderator & Dean of the Institute - of the Mecklenburg General Baptist Association, a member of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, where he is a member of the Executive Board, the General Board, the Evangelism Committee, and President of the Ministers' Council. He is a member of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., where he serves as an Instructor in the NBC, USA, Inc., Congress of Christian Education.

Dr. Lynch is the founder and former Chairman of the Greenville SC Ministers' Institute. He is the founder and current Chairman of the Queen City Ministers' Institute, of Charlotte, NC. {an institute for pastors and ministers seeking to develop their ministries}

Dr. Lynch has dedicated his life to the proclamation of the gospel. He has preached across this nation. He seeks to live a life of service to humankind. Please continue to pray that God will continue to bless his ministry.

For more information you may contact Ebenezer Baptist Church, 2020 Sugar Creek Road West, Charlotte, NC 28262. 704-598-2219 = phone / 704-598-8774 = fax.



CHARLES T. BULLOCK FOR GBSC PRESIDENT

ELECTION COMMITTEE IN FULL FORCE

In his quest for the office of President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., the Rev. Dr. Charles T. Bullock is supported by the campaign team of Rev. Paul L. Anderson, Campaign Manager, and the Rev. Dr. Dumas A.

Harshaw, Jr., Treasurer. In addition, the membership of the Committee to Elect Charles T. Bullock President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. continues to grow as more GBSC members lend their prayers, time, and financial support to this important endeavor.

Using the theme, "Equipping and Encouraging the Church to Serve the Present Age," Dr. Charles T. Bullock has chosen the following scripture to underground his campaign:

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastor and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-12)

According to Dr. Bullock. "We have the responsibility to help every other member in the body of Christ to grow in faith. The ministry is for all that are called to share in Christ's life. Through education and research we can use our gifts for the building up of the body of Christ. Integrity and commitment exemplify our dedication for carrying out the mandates of Christ."

In October 2002, the membership of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. will "turn a new page" in the organization's history book. We will have an opportunity to elect new leadership -- leadership that is equipped to carry our organization forward and build upon our past successes. Our new leadership must have the vision, experience, integrity and commitment needed to guide our organization in its work for the cause of Jesus Christ. The Committee to Elect Charles T. Bullock President of The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. believes that Charles T. Bullock will provide this leadership.

Dr. Charles T. Bullock has the academic preparation and over 35 years of educational experience to expand the vision of the teaching ministry of the General Baptist State Convention. He has over 40 years of pastoral experience that equips him to increase our organization's responsiveness to the issues our churches are facing today. His travels beyond the United States to places such as South Africa, South America and Germany as a preacher and teacher are examples of his ability to boldly declare God's Word. Dr. Bullock has shown his commitment to

THE 2002 GBSC, Inc. ANNUAL ELECTION

The 2002 GBSC, Inc. Annual Election will be held, October 30, 2002, in Fayetteville, NC. Messengers will be certified throughout the week, from October 28, 2002 until, 12 noon, October 30, 2002.

THOSE PERSONS WHO SEEK TO SERVE AS OFFICERS OF THE GBSC, Inc., AND DESIRE TO BECOME A CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE MUST ANNOUNCE THEIR CANDIDACY IN THE BAPTIST INFORMER AT LEAST THREE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE ELECTION (SEE GBSC CONSTITUTION Article V.)

ALL CANDIDATES SHOULD SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN July 30, 2002. SO THAT BALLOTS CAN BE PREPARED.

CANDIDATES SHOULD SEND THEIR LETTERS OF INTENTION TO:

Reverend F. O. Bass
GBSC, Inc. Nominating
Committee
716 Leonard Avenue
High Point, NC 27260
336-882-9216

the ideals, objectives and ministry of the General Baptist State Convention by serving on the Executive Board of the Convention for over 25 years.

The campaign platform for Dr. Bullock Continued on Page 27

Bullock Continued From Page 20

Charles T. Bullock is "ERIC", which stands for **E**ducation, **R**esearch, **I**ntegrity and **C**ommitment. The Committee to Elect Charles T. Bullock President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. invites everyone to join in our fervent support of the man who will serve our Convention well. You can reach us at Post Office Box 28522, Raleigh, NC 27601; (919) 333-9756 or email us at cbullock@msbc-nc.org; pla7545@aol.com.

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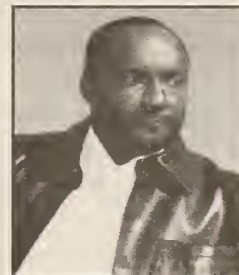
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MODERATOR OF MODERATORS NEWS

You've Got To Tell It All



By Reverend
James W.
Smith, JD
(pictured left)
Moderator of
Moderators

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

In the October, 2001 issue of the Baptist Informer, I wrote an article entitled "Honesty is the best policy." I addressed an issue that ministers are confronted with when being considered for a pulpit vacancy. It was the importance of giving full disclosure. In that article, I stated, "Now, this does not mean that one has to give every little detail of some negatives in his or her background but one does need to inform or mention the matter or matters to the church"

Well, in my observations and experiences, I now believe I made an incorrect statement. It seems that churches and pulpit committees want more than just an admission of some past wrong doings but they also desire to know the details. Consider if you will, this dialogue. Question: Is there anything in

your background that you would like to share with this pulpit committee? Answer: Well, not really but if you go back before I was called into the ministry, I don't know what you might find. Actually, I have had a very painful and bitter experience that is hard for me to share but since I have been called to the ministry I have nothing in my ministry that I am ashamed to disclose. (End of dialogue) Now the committee discovers this painful and bitter experience and regardless of being the most qualified in all other areas, you find yourself bumped from consideration. You need to tell it all or be prepared to suffer the consequences

I am now confronted with this same issue as I consider seeking an office within the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc. It is hard to ask for your support and vote without sharing my background. My mother and grandfather were staunch Missionary Baptists and I have been a Missionary Baptist all my life. I had the privilege of attending many convention settings with my grandfather, the late Rev. S. P. Massenburg and the late Rev. S. G. Dunston. I was very involved in the work of the church. I was what I consider a rather successful attorney. I ran for a judgeship. I served

as Vice-President of the Association of Black Lawyers of N.C. I served as President of the NCCU Law School Alumni Association.

However, I brought into the profession a gambling habit that eventually got the best of me. I became a compulsive gambler. I used some money of a client to support this compulsion and in July 1981, I was so depressed, despondent and desperate that I entered a bank and robbed it of money to replenish what I had taken. I surrender a few hours later with the assistance of close medical and legal associates,

During my ordeal, God called me to the ministry and I preached my initial sermon in January 1982. During my confinement, the Lord used me tremendously. I worked as an assistant to the Chaplain, attended numerous Christian workshops, and received a certificate in Discipleship Training from Ligoneer Valley Study Center, Stalltown, PA. In April 1987, I was ordained as a Baptist Minister by the United Shiloh Missionary Baptist Association. Later, I became certified as an In-Prison Seminar Instructor with Prison Fellowship Ministries and I have taught seminars at Federal Correctional Institution, Butner, NC, Federal Correctional Institution,

Leavenworth, KS and Central Prison, Death Row, Raleigh, NC.

I have been blessed to receive a Master of Divinity Degree and I am now a candidate for the Doctorate Ministry Degree. I was called Pastor of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in March, 1991, elected as Moderator of East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association and appointed by our current President as Moderator of Moderators for the GBS of NC, Inc. I am a living testimony of what God can do. If you know what God has done for you, it's okay to tell it all.

If you wish our services in any way please contact us at the following:

Rev. James W. Smith, JD
146 Presidents Drive
Durham, NC 27704 (919) 479-0500
Email Jsmith9450@aol.com

Dr. Joshua J. Haire, Jr.
P. O. Box 53803
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PASTORS

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1. A resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. One business and two personal references (no family references)

Send information to:

Mayor B. Credle, Deacon Chairman
 Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
 5972 NC Highway 304
 Bayboro, NC 28515

OLIVE BRANCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:

The Pulpit Committee
 Brother Elonza Joyner, Chairperson
 106 Graves Avenue
 Elizabeth City, NC 27909
elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Fayetteville, NC: currently accepting letters of interest and resumes for the position of Senior Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume or Letter of Interest
2. A copy Missionary Baptist religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. Five personal references (two from Ministers)

Send information to:

The Pulpit Committee
 ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker
 Savannah Missionary Baptist Church
 6676 Tabor Church Road
 Fayetteville, NC 28310

PASTOR: OAKEY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Clayton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume

2. Personal references

Send information to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church
 Pulpit Search Committee
 Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson
 PO Box 2435
 Smithfield, NC 27577

MOUNT CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for an ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. Salary Negotiable based on experience and qualifications

Send information to:

Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church
 Pulpit Committee
 PO Box 1421
 Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1421

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH, Greenevers, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:

Deacon Fernald Rawles, Jr.
 920 Pasture Branch Road
 Rose Hill, NC 28458

MOUNT PLEASANT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Harrellsville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor. The church is located in Hertford County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A Resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. Two personal references (no family references)

Send information to:

Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
 Pastoral Search Committee
 ATTN: Deacon Eugene White
 815 Swains Mill Road
 Harrellsville, NC 27942

CHINQUAPIN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Mocksville, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. The church is a small rural congregation. Interested applicants should provide a Resume.

Send information to:

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church
 Pastoral Search Committee
 Mr. Richard Moore, Chairman
 4462 NC Hwy, 801 North
 Mocksville, NC 27028
 336-998-3362

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

- A Resume

Send information to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
 Pastoral Search Committee
 Route 2, Box 128
 Norlina, NC 27563

GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Oakboro, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. The church is located in Stanley County, 45 minutes east of Charlotte. We are affiliated with the Zion Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide a resume:

Send information to:

Deacon James Ashcraft
 Pulpit Search Committee
 PO Box 644
 Oakboro, NC 28129

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Thomasville, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide a resume. Send information to:

Tanya M. Autry, Chairperson
 Pastoral Search Committee
 First Missionary Baptist Church
 103 Church Street
 Thomasville, NC 27360

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST Church, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are located in Warren County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:

Mrs. Lucy E. Branch
 PO Box 52
 Warrenton, NC 27589

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, Newburgh, NY: currently accepting applications for Senior Pastor with strong Baptist roots. The Committee will provide each candidate with an application packet.

Send request to:

Ebenezer Baptist Church
 ATTN: Deacon Milton Buxton/Confidential
 PO Box 248
 Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

MICHENER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH, Smithfield, NC: membership approximately 75, is currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the

Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. At least three no more than five personal references

Send information to:

Mitchener Memorial Baptist Church
 Pulpit Search Committee, c/o Dea
 Nathaniel L. Sanders, Jr.
 308 Snead Drive
 Clayton, NC 27520

SHADY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Spencer, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. At least four references: (2) business (2) personal

3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:

Shady Grove Baptist Church
 ATTN: Clarence A. Jones, Chairperson
 PO Box 447
 East Spencer, NC 28039

FOSTER MEMORIAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Rocky Mount, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:

Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church
 The Pulpit Committee
 C/o Mr. Hiawatha Knight
 PO Box 6317
 Rocky Mount, NC 27802-6317

MOUNT CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Wilmington, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume or Letter of Interest
2. At least five references: (Two can be ministers)

3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
 ATTN: Rena Lennon
 PO Box 1970
 Wilmington, NC 28420

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Kittrell, NC currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume with cover letter of interest

Send information to:

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

Classified

At least five references: (Two can be ministers)

A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination and information to:

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
TN: Rena Lennon
PO Box 1970
Wilmington, NC 28420

HILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Kittrell, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong missionary Baptist roots.. Interested applicants should provide a resume with cover letter of interest

and information to:
Hiloh Missionary Baptist Church
Pit Search Committee
PO Box 175
Kittrell, NC 7544-0175
2-492-0567

EASTERN STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Tarboro, North Carolina 27886 seeking a pastor.
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Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church
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Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church
12700 Creedmoor Road
Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587
(919) 870-8874

THE SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the appropriate qualifications. For additional information please send inquiry or resume to:

Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church
PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589
Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: seeks minister of music. Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday. Prepare Choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship. Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times. Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church functions. Direct congregation in congregational hymns. Must be able to play he ear as well as read music
To Apply call:

(704) 532-6813 or E-mail to GalileeNC@aol.com
Galilee Missionary Baptist
P.O. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

THE PENN AVENUE MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH of Lewiston: seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian, who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano
- *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music
- *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to:
Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214,
Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849.
Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

THE PENN AVENUE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Oxford, NC. currently seeking a Minister of Music
Specific Qualifications:

- *Will be responsible with the pastor's

approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 am with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 am. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister of Music or organist needed:

Please send resume to:

Union Baptist Church

110 Lincoln Ave.

Lexington, NC 27292

Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas

Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.

THE NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH of Gates N.C. seeks a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

salary negotiable

Send resume to:

New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91,
Gatesville, NC 27938

Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Calling (252) 357-1061 may make inquiries.
after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED:

Knowledge of music and the ability to play by ear is appreciated. Presently, morning worship service is held every fourth (4th) Sunday, but we are considering an additional Sunday for services. Must be able to play for youth choir and adult choir. Church is located in Warren County, North Carolina. For further information, please call:
(252) 257-0221.

THE CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH in Gatonia, NC currently seeks a Minister of Music. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to:

Center Baptist Church. Attention:
Personnel Committee.
POB 550064

Gastonia, NC. 28055

or fax cover letter and resume to:

Personnel Committee at: 704-824-7683.

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH seeks Full-time Christian Minister of Music. Loyal and (Committed to Gods program.) Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor, and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention:

Trustees Emmanuel Missionary

Baptist Church

913.N. Highland Street

Gastonia, NC 25052

THE CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GIBSON, N.C. seeking a person to. serve as Church Musician. Qualifications: Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at this address.

Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church
14600 Railroad St.
Gibson, NC 28343

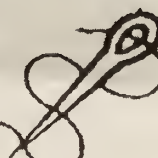
THE FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH accepting resumes for a Church Musician.

For Specific Qualifications: send inquiry to the address listed below.

Salary negotiable:

715 West Willis Ave.


High Point, NC 27260



Cecilia Walton
833-8440

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by Cecilia

Dressmaking, Draperies & Upholstery



Baptist Informer

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER LOGAN APPEALS FOR VAN

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina needs a VAN. If you, your Church or Association has a van you are willing to donate to the "WORK." Please contact: Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338, 919-821-7466; 800-639-4272; alo-gan@gbsc.org



Baptist Infirmer

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Raleigh, NC 27601

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Baptist Informer



Volume 125, No 7

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

July 2002

African American Baptist Convention of North Carolina Breaks Ground on Affordable Housing For Hurricane Floyd Survivors

By Reverend Dennis Leach BS. M. Div.,

On May 31, 2002 at 2:00 PM in Navassa, North Carolina, The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Inc., under the visionary leadership of Dr. John D. Fuller Sr. its President, collaborated with local, city, state, and federal officials to lead the Convention in a historic ground-breaking ceremony to build affordable housing for Hurricane Floyd survivors, as well as for low and moderate income families. National, state, and local officials attended the ceremony. Dr. Thurman Everett, GBSC Housing Committee Chairman presided. Among those who participated, and addressed Conventioneers were Dr. E. B. Turner, GBSC Past-President, rendering the invocation, Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., GBSC President, gave the welcome. Mayor Eulis A. Willis, brought greetings. Senator C.R. Edwards, spoke on behalf of Governor Easley, the Honorable Kenneth Wilkins spoke on behalf of Senator Edwards, the Honorable Thomas Wright, N.C. House of Representatives delivered a short speech in support of the project, the Honorable David E. Kelley, Director of NC Redevelopment Center, the Honorable Cleveland Simpson, Assistant Secretary for Community Development, each spoke. Mr. Brian Crawford, North Carolina Community Development Initiative, Inc. brought a check for one hundred and forty two thousand five hundred dollars and presented it to



**GBSC, INC. AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT
GROUNDBREAKING IN NAVASSA, NC**

President Fuller, Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer and Dr. Everett, Mr. William Sue, Brunswick County Commission, the Honorable Louis "Bobby" Brown, President Brunswick County CDC, Mr. Jaman "Jim" Vithalani, President Right Angle Engineering, and Tim Riverbark, Contractor all addressed those in attendance. Dr. Logan, gave an informative overview of the project, and Dr. Everett speaking on behalf of the GBSC Housing Committee said this was a small step in the right direction that would begin the journey toward affordable housing for

those still trying to recover from the Hurricane Floyd disaster.

President Fuller, assumed leadership of the Convention, which consist of nearly two thousand Missionary Baptist churches, with nearly five hundred thousand members in October of 1998. While on his watch, Hurricane Floyd struck North Carolina leaving in its wake many homeless, jobless, displaced families, and damaged churches. Acting under the theme: *"The Challenge is the Same, Reach the Masses,"* John 12:32, Dr. Fuller's leadership was able to galvanize officers and members of the Convention who

responded immediately by standing behind this mission effort. While distributing funds and other resources the Convention was forced to reevaluate its ministry responsibility to the victims of Hurricane Floyd who had lost everything. Dr. Fuller said to conventioneers: "as a Convention, we have teamed together that the parameters of ministry could be stretched beyond normal boundaries, soon after the waters of Hurricane Floyd had subsided. And, as a community of faith we are now challenged to wrestle with the aftermath of this natural disaster, and to look at how the church should respond in ministry to the plight of brothers and sisters who are now without shelter. If the words of Jesus found in Matthew 25:35-40 means anything, we are duty bound to react in a most magnificent way, as Christ disciples, showing love."

Dr. Fuller has been labeled, and called a practical prophet, by his contemporary colleagues; whose theology can be measured in his service-oriented approach to Christian ministry. While serving as pastor of the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church in Fayetteville, North Carolina for the past twenty-nine years he has proven over and over again his commitment to the mandates of Jesus Christ through prolific practical ministries. The church's ministries include a full service childcare center, a tutorial program, and it is one of a few churches in Fayetteville that participates in The Inter-Faith Hospitality Program for homeless families. As a result

Breaking Ground cont. on page 3

CELEBRATING 135 YEARS: 1867 - 2002

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION 2001-2002 FISCAL YEAR ENDS AUGUST 31, 2002



Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.

By Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

We greet you in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! We are in the last quarter of this GBSC fiscal year. This year we are running behind in our projected stewardship contributions. We ask each Church and Association to meet your stewardship requests. If you have not sent your stewardship contributions to the GBSC for the 2001-2002, fiscal year please send them to Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC, 27601-2338, 919-821-7466, 800-639-GBSC, as soon as possible and before August 31, 2001, so that they may be included in our

Annual Minutes. Please pray for the success of our glorious and noble cause.

The GBSC has continued to assist the flood survivors in Eastern North Carolina. Our Princeville, NC subdivision, Phoenix Village is on schedule. We have begun development for three more affordable homes. We have broken ground in Navassa, NC for flood survivors and mixed used development for the GBSC. We have staffed the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill, NC. Also Scotland has begun putting water lines in Laurel Hill. We will tap on this year. These projects were in addition to our commitments to our "Objectives and Auxiliaries."

Our Convention staff has provided workshops, institutes and training sessions across the State. Our "special ministries": Health and Human Services, J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Adoption & Foster Care, and Housing all have staff to support their work. The President, Vice Presidents and Auxiliary Presidents have labored in a spirit of unity as never before in our body. Many of our "committees" were active in ministry. The GBSC has made a measurable difference in the lives of lost souls, high-risk health populations and deeply hurting people; however, we need your additional stewardship contributions for this fiscal year. The GBSC is a family, if we all carry our corner the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ can reach the loss and those in need. We have

made commitments to Shaw University, Shaw University Divinity School, Central Children's Home, Lott Carey, State Missions and other worthy causes that must be met.

During our historic 135th Mid-Year Celebration, May 8-9, 2002 at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC, Dr. John Mendez, host Pastor we met with the North Carolina Baptist State Convention. The laymen of both Conventions pledged to build two homes in Eastern North Carolina for Hurricane Floyd Survivors. Also during the Session we kicked off our first ever GBSC Stewardship Campaign.

We realize that all of you have obligations and responsibilities in your own Churches and Associations. Our appeal starts from the "bottom-up." If your Church or Association has not made ANY OR ONLY A MODEST STEWARDSHIP CONTRIBUTION to the "work" of the GBSC this fiscal year please send your stewardship checks today. We will receive contributions and suggested quotas from the Ushers, Congresses of Christian Education, Laymen's Leagues, the UNIFIED PROGRAM, designated gifts and worthy causes during the Unity Auxiliary Annual Sessions, July 15-20, 2002 at the Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC, Dr. Charles Bullock, Pastor. THIS YEAR IS ELECTION YEAR FOR THREE OF ITS AUXILIARIES. PLEASE REGISTER AND SEND YOUR MESSENGERS TO RALEIGH FOR THE UNITY SESSION - We will elect new officers for the Laymen, Congress and Ushers. Moderators, Pastors, Church Officers and leaders please help us make 2001-2002 one of the most successful in GBSC history. Every stewardship contribution makes a difference, regardless of how large or small!

The strength of the GBSC is in our unity. Each Church, each Association, each Union, and each member of the convention is like a link on a chain. As we join together in support of common goals and

objectives we are able to do great mission work and ministry. The greater the support we have for the causes of Kingdom Building the greater our witness as General Baptist.

I, along with our Field Staff, will try to contact each Moderator and Pastor before the fiscal years ends. We depend on you for prayer and support. Your check will make a difference in the following areas:

Home/State Missions
The Unified Program
Support of Hurricane Floyd "Survivors"
Princeville/Navassa/Laurel Hill Projects
Shaw Divinity School Library Fund
Central Children's Home
Lott Carey Ministry in Africa and abroad
Shaw University GBSC Church Music
Scholarships
General Baptist Field/Administrative Staff

The 3 Million Dollar 30 Month
Stewardship Campaign

Finally, President John D. Fuller, Sr., joins me in thanking you for your support and sacrifices this fiscal year. Many of you have gone the extra mile to support the "work." Please send your stewardship support before August 31, 2002. The Challenge Is The Same: Reach The — Masses" John 12:32 (KJV)

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

Phyllis D. Coley, Publisher

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." *

2ND TRINITY ANNUAL SESSION

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE,
CONGRESS & USHERS

to be held

MARTIN STREET
BAPTIST CHURCH
1001 East Martin Street,
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 833-9756

Dr. Charles T. Bullock, Pastor
DETAILS ON PAGE 24

PRESIDENT'S NEWS

Breaking Ground cont. from page 1

Dr. Fuller's name has become synonymous with ministerial excellence in local, state, national, and international ecclesiastical circles. Dr. Fuller's philosophy is: "The church is not the church, unless it gives itself away." And, the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church's motto is: "The church that goes forward forever, backward never."

After being elected President of the Convention, Dr. Fuller was soon to appoint Dr. Thurman B. Everett as Housing Committee Chairman. Chairman, Everett worked tirelessly in tandem with Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., the GBSC Executive Secretary-Treasurer, and together they were able to secure federal and state grant money to help

finance this housing ministry project. The Convention was able to secure over 128 acres of land in Navassa, NC. The only African American Missionary Baptist Convention in North Carolina also leads in the rebuilding efforts that have taken place in Princeville, North Carolina the oldest historically Black Township in the nation that was virtually destroyed by the flooding. They have committed financial and human resources to property acquisition and housing renewal, and with the construction of Phoenix Village a housing development in Princeville, the Convention continues to aid in the recovery stuff going on there. The African American Baptist churches of the GBSC have led the Faith-based response to Hurricane Floyd recovery across Eastern North Carolina.

Mr. Ben Ruffin, CEO of the Ruffin Group out of Winston-Salem, North Carolina stated while speaking to Convention members at the Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet that: "President Fuller is turning on ministry lights that will have a far reaching effect beyond his tenure. And, his progressive forward thinking leadership has caused the Convention to take a giant leap forward for the church." With Dr. Fuller at the helm, the African American Missionary Baptist of North Carolina continue to lead the nation by its example and involvement in this housing project effort for the "least" of those among us.



Dr. John D. Fuller Sr.

LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

From Charles T. Bullock
Vice President At Large



*Charles T. Bullock
Vice President At Large*

As we continue to labor in ministry for kingdom building in these uncertain times, let us seek and follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is through the power of the Holy Spirit that we will effectively reach the masses through our preaching, teaching and witnessing. The scripture and contemporary history reveal how God's will was accomplished by those who followed the lead of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit led

Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan. The Spirit led Jesus to Jerusalem to be crucified, all in God's will. Church History reveals that the Spirit also led Martin Luther, John Calvin, Saint Augustine, Roger Williams, John Wesley and others as well as a preacher, teacher, leader of the twentieth century, Martin Luther King, Jr. He, the Holy Spirit of God, will continue to lead those of us who are willing to follow.

As the Spirit of God has lead the presidents and other officers of our convention in the past, so will He lead our convention as we prepare for the future. As an officer of the convention, I am sincerely grateful for the confidence, trust and support that you have given me. I ask that you will continue that confidence, trust and support as I seek to provide further leadership of our convention as president. I call upon you to join with me as we seek God's guidance to be led of the Holy Spirit in carrying out the command of God through this convention.

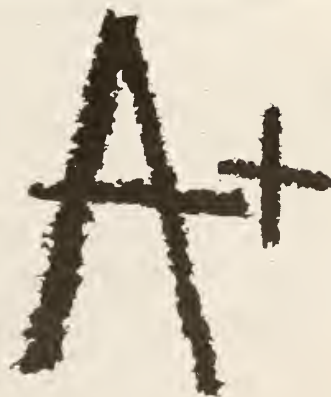
I realize that as president I must commit; and I do commit to serve on your behalf, to always keep the mission of our convention in focus and to execute the duties and responsibilities of the office.

- To work with the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, other officers and committees in the development and the implementation of ministries, programs and policies.
- To work diligently with the officers and committees to generate throughout the state positive thinking and supportive commitment for all of the objectives of our convention.
- To help insure sound accountability for the

Led continues on page 5

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WOMEN'S CONVENTION NEWS

The Power of God's Word (Communication)

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

1. Rejoice in the Lord. O Ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.
2. Praise the Lord with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.
3. Sing unto him a new song: play skillfully with a loud noise.
4. For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth.
5. He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

6. By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them

by the breath of his mouth.

7. He gathered the waters of the sea together as an heap; he layeth up the depth in storehouses.

8. Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

9. For he spake and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.

Psalms 33:1-9

The theme of the Woman's Convention this year relates to "Transforming The Family Through Christian Communication." This scripture shows

The Power Continued on Page 5



Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Julia McDonald
President of WBH & FMC

MISSIONS PRAYER PIZZA PARTY

Sponsored by

The Youth Department

of the

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention
Auxiliary to GBSC

Time and Place To Be Announced, Winston-Salem

Approximately 250 spaces will be reserved (first come, first served). The advance donation is \$7.00 per person, and \$8.00 at the door per person. The donation, along with form, should be sent no later than July 12, 2002, so that the ticket(s) can be mailed to you before the Convention. It is not planned that tickets be sold on site at the time of the event. Supervisors and conventional Youth are invited.

(A feature of interest will be presented)

MISSIONS PRAYER PIZZA PARTY
Youth Department, WBH&FMC

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Number of Tickets Desired _____

Telephone No. _____

Signed _____

Please mail form and money to:

Woman's Baptist State Convention
P.O. Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602

118th Annual Session Events

The 118th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina will convene in Winston-Salem, North Carolina at the Benton Convention Center. Please begin praying and making preparation to attend and participate in this celebration.

The session convenes during the week of July 28-August 1, 2002. Reverend F.O. Bass, Jr., and Mt. Vernon Baptist Church of High Point will serve as hosts. The main hotel is the Adam's Mark, Winston-Salem.

Among the activities are:

1. A **Communion Service** on Sunday evening, July 28th, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at New Bethel Baptist Church. There will not be a pre-convention musical on Sunday evening.

2. The **Johnnie Blunt McLester Pre-Convention Banquet** on Monday evening, July 29th, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center. You may secure tickets from the office of the Woman's Convention now. Tickets purchased by the advance deadline of June 22, 2002 are \$30.00 each. Tickets purchased on site are \$31.00 each. Please send to the office now for tickets.

3. **Missions Study Classes** on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (July 30-August 1, 2002), beginning at 8:00 A.M. in the Convention Center and Adams Mark Hotel. Pre-registration information is available for class registration. There will be classes for Pastors and Senior, Young Adult and Youth missionaries. A pastor will teach the class for pastors.

118th Annual Continued on Page 5

MISSIONS PRAYER BREAKFAST

Sponsored By
The Young Adult Department
of the
Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention,
Auxiliary to GBSC

Tuesday, July 30, 2002
Adam's Mark, Winston-Salem
6:45A.M.-8:00 A.M.

0 spaces have been reserved (first come, first served). The advance
nation is \$15.00 per person and \$16.00 per person at the door. The
nation, along with form, should be sent to later than July 12, 2002, so
at the breakfast ticket(s) can be mailed to you before the Convention.
niors, Young Adults and Youth are invited.

(A feature of interest will be presented.)

MISSIONS PRAYER BREAKFAST
Tuesday, July 30, 2002
Young Adult Department, WBH&FMC

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____ Pastor _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Number of Tickets Desired _____

Telephone No. _____

Signed _____

Please mail form and money to: Woman's Baptist State Convention
P.O. Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602

(Please return form with funds no later than July 12, 2002.)

Power Continued From Page 4

the power and life in God's spoken
ord. When God spoke, things happened
He declared. God in Christ allows the
Christian family to speak "life" or
death" into their relationships. There
e many scriptures, which relate to what
speak or communicate. However, let
be remindful of our theme scripture:
overbs 21:23 and James 1:26

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118th Annual Cont. from Page 4
pastor will teach the class for pastors.
4. Youth Projects on Tuesday, July
30, 2002.

5. The Young Adult Missions
Prayer

Breakfast on Tuesday, July 30 at 6:45
a.m. The advance dontion is \$15.00: at
the door, \$16.00. Space is limited.
Please send to the office for tickets
now.

6. The Ministers' Wives and
Widows Fellowship Luncheon on
Tuesday, July 30 at 12:30 p.m. The
advance donation is \$15.00; at the

118th Annual Continues above

118th Annual Cont. from below

door,
\$16.00. Space is limited.
Please send to the office for tickets
now.
7. The Youth Prayer "Pizza Party"
during the conventional week (tim
and place to be announced.) The
advance donation is \$7.00; at the
door, \$8.00. Space may be limited.
Please send to the office for tickets
now.
8. Annual Address of President
McDonald, along with the report of
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Brodie, on Wednesday morning (July
31).
9. Early Morning Prayer Hour
from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. Tuesday
through Thursday.
10. Executive Committee Meeting
on Monday, July 29 at 9:00 A.M. The
Executive Board will meet at 10:00
A.M. The General Board will meet
at 1:45 P.M.

Representation and Pre-registration
fees should be sent to the office by
July 5, 2002. Fee information and
forms have been mailed to District
Chairpersons and Circle, Union, and
Auxiliary Presidents. Chairpersons and
Presidents, please, contact the office if
you have not received your Annual
Session pre-registration information.
Please be reminded that the 2001-2002
budget is \$801,357.00. We need
approximately \$465,762.85 to reach the
budget. Please bring or send, before
the Convention, the greatest part of
the balance of your quotas. Our fiscal
year ends August 31, 2002. This is the
tenth month of the fiscal year.
Please make checks / m.o. payable
to the Woman's Baptist Home and
Foreign Missionary Convention or
the Woman's Baptist State
Convention. Please mail contribu-
tions and correspondence to:
Woman's Baptist State Convention,
P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

WBH&FMC MINISTERS' WIVES LUNCHEON

TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2002

Place To Be Announced, Winston-Salem

Advance Donation - \$15.00 Per Person
At The Door Donation - \$16.00 Per Person

(URGENT! Please Pre-Register by July 12, 2002)

WBH&FMC MINISTERS' WIVES LUNCHEON
Tuesday, July 30, 2002

Pre-Registration

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Church _____ Pastor _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Telephone # _____

Signed _____

Please mail blank and money to: Woman's Baptist State Convention
P.O. Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602

VICE PRESIDENT'S NEWS



*4th Vice-President
Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II,
M.Div.*

The Awesome Power of Christ

"To the [General Baptist Family] of God in [North Carolina], to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere Who

call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ — their Lord and ours: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" {1 Corinthians 1:2-3, NIV}.

I always thank God for as you I travel around this great state through the channels of this great Convention. God is doing great things through you in ministry and the manifestation of spiritual gifts. Jesus' statement in Matthew 5:14 rings loudly in my ears: "You are the light of the world." When we carefully and prayerfully examine this statement, it is clearly a bold, yet bewildering proclamation. Imagine how perplexed the listeners of Jesus' day were when they heard this profound proclamation.

Here they were, living in a land that was far removed from the awesome and magnificent power of imperial Rome. They perhaps had envisioned what the great city of their oppressor must have looked like. Rome to them was the bright light that shone upon a hill. Yet, Jesus proclaimed them (His disciples) to be

Avery continues on page 5

News From The Foreign Field: The Lott Carey Convention

From The Second Vice President:

Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr.

Ms. Amanda Haines of McKeesport, Pennsylvania, was part of the Lott Carey Youth Work Mission team to Guyana, South America, and tells of her unforgettable experience.

She states that Guyana lies between Venezuela and Suriname, and above Brazil on the Northern tip of South America. Its capital is Georgetown. Population is about 697,286 or more. This nation consists of five ethnic groups: Amerindians, Whites, Blacks, East Indians, and Chinese. Some of the religions practiced by the Guyanese people are Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Amerindian religions, and



Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr.

others. The languages spoken are English, Creole, Amerindian dialects, Hindi, and Urdu. On

SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWS

Reverend N. T. Davis

Grace and Peace be unto you from God the Father and His only Son Jesus. He has blessed us to see another spring and summer is near. Dr. Talbert O. Shaw has retired as President of Shaw University effective December 21, 2002. We have lost a true champion. An effective leader, a great fund raiser and scholar.

From the Baptist of North Carolina we thank Dr. and Mrs. Shaw for your years of faithful service to the University and to the Raleigh, State and Nation. God blessing be with you as you retire and His blessing is with you always. Surely all will miss you. The Baptist of North Carolina are praying for you daily in all the steps you take for we know the steps of a good man is ordered by the Lord.



Rev. N.T. Davis

May 26, 1966, Guyana gained its independence from the United Kingdom. On February 23, 1970, Guyana was declared a Republic. This date is a celebrated national holiday. Guyana has a parliamentary government and is a member state of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The theme was "Remembering Christ's Words: The Challenge for the Church." Luke 24:8. The

body sought to embrace this theme through their work, worship and witness. God showed them that, while they worked, they were witnessing and worshipping. It is exciting to understand that, as a follower of Christ, you don't have to speak to witness. You can be a witness without saying a word. Your actions, character, and the way you

Foreign Field continued on page 7

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NEWS

HUMANITARIAN AGENCY CHURCH WORLD SERVICE LEADING PEACE DELEGATION TO WEST AFRICA



*Submitted By Carol Smith
Managing Editor*

International humanitarian Church World Service Executive Director John L. McCullough will lead a nine member delegation to West Africa in July 2002.

responding to a call for help from churches in the region that have reached out to each other across national borders to work for peace.

On the schedule for July 2-18 are meetings with the presidents of Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Gambia; ecumenical and interfaith councils in the four countries, and U.S. ambassadors to each country. CWS' goal: strengthening partner churches' work for peace, human rights, reconciliation, reconstruction and sustainable development in a region wracked by political instability, poverty, fighting and massive displacement of people within and across borders.

The councils of churches along with an inter-religious group in the Mano River Union countries of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone pressed their countries' presidents to meet together twice in the past 18 months to address the urgent

Humanitarian Cont. on page 19

Foreign Field cont. from page 6

ive your life can lead someone to Christ. We also realize that work can be an act of worship.

We helped two families build their homes, and we did very physical work but, as we worked we Praise God. As we worked, it didn't matter how difficult the labor was. We knew that our service, gives God Praise and affirms God's love for all people. If we continue to weave that all together, *Work* (Helping someone build their home), *Worship* (While we worked, we praise the Lord), *Witness* (Being a witness for everyone to see and living the life that God has called us to live), you can see what an exciting time we had together.

Twelve persons from the USA and thirteen Guyanese (South Americans) made up our mission team. For me, South America has a

Foreign Field continues on page 8

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Theme

*"The Church's Mission In The Midst of
Crime & Incarceration"*

By: Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman

The time is now to begin preparation to attend the 2nd Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference September 27-28, 2002. This year's conference will be held at the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, NC. This complex is one of the largest correctional complexes in the country. This year's conference will provide expert raining, dialogue with inmates, tours and worship services. These events will take place in the FCC Training Center and inside the



Michael R. Smith, Sr. Chairman

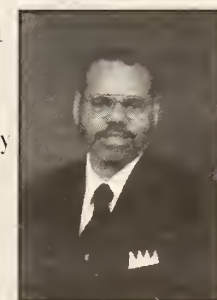
Crime continues on page 22

GBSC Pastor Receives Ph.D. Degree in English

By Carol Smith, Managing Editor

A General Baptist State Convention pastor received his Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in English during the 110th

Commencement Exercises at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) on Sunday, May 19th, 2002. The Rev. Donald Ray Jenkins, who serves as pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Mocksville, was one of 39 students receiving doctoral degrees. Sixteen members from Jenkins's church, one of his former high-school teachers, and



Pastor Ph.D. continues on page 11

NEWS

Led continued from page 6

- To enhance the teaching ministry of our convention, utilizing state-of-art strategies and technology on the local, state and collegiate levels at Shaw University and Shaw University Divinity School.
- To increase support to the Health and Human Service department, so that this component of our convention can be more visible and more serviceable by addressing health issues for prevention and early detection of diseases and thereby enhance the quality of life for all of us.
- To engage the convention in research

Avery continued from page 6

"the light of the world." Could it be that Jesus already saw them wrapped in a power so awesome — so marvelous — so impressive — so formidable, that Rome's light paled in comparison? YES! Jesus knew that the power of God, which was promised to those who trusted and followed Him could and would achieve what no other power in existence could! Jesus proclaimed this promise several times. Look at it in two specific passages:

- "I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high" {Luke 24:49, NIV}.
- "...Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you..." {Acts 1:4b, 8a, NIV}.

Jesus was declaring that those who receive God's power would accomplish what no other power on earth could do. Through them, God's power would provide light to a world that was bound by the darkness of lesser powers. Through them, God's light would *enable, equip, and empower* them to be witnesses of Christ, even "to the ends of the earth." The light of Rome was no match for the promised power that the disciples would receive in order to serve as the light of the world.

and or exposure to studies, materials and resources that provide relevant solutions to problems and issues our churches are facing today as it relates to ministry, internal conflict, money management skills and others.

These are some of the goals that will serve as guidelines for our convention to move forward in this century. As I continue to seek the office of president of The General Baptist State Convention, I solicit your prayers and your support that together we may have an exemplary Convention to the praise and glory of God.

The same is true today. My sisters and brothers in Christ, **YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!** This is the promise of Christ from Christ to all who trust and follow the Lord. The source from which we receive this world-illuminating power from God is an intimate companionship and communion with the once crucified, but now risen Christ! That's it! That is why the Apostle Paul could exclaim with confidence: "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" {Galatians 2:20, NIV}. With this power:

- we overcome weakness because God's power works through human weakness;
- we are rescued and healed; thus, we become rescuers and healer because God's power rescues and heals those who are handcuffed in the ruins of destructive experiences;
- we become a Christian community which reaches out to the least, the lost, those who are left out, looked over, and let down because God's power strengthens Christian

Avery continues on page 27

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Foreign Feild continued from p 6

new meaning. South America is bigger than a country — it spanned two continents and it was a blessing to my heart to live and work in such a Christian community. Nobody cared about their nationality or their ethnicity. Everyone was simply excited about our common love for Christ, which called us to work, worship and witness. After the first two days of learning each others names and aspects culture, the Holy Spirit just came and made all of us one. We were so close by the end of our work mission experience, until it was as if we had known each other our whole lives.

God Is An Awesome Wonder!

The State Usher's Convention

By: Alice W. McNair

The N.C. State Ushers Convention will be held (2 day session) July 19-20, 2002 at the Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C. Dr. Charles Bullock, pastor. Usher presidents; begin making preparations to attend. Make hotel reservations, get cars and church vans ready; bring your uniforms; for the Saturday a.m., Grand Ushers March. Hope to see you there. Ushers, this is officers election year. Pres. Charles Fletcher has been a very good president for the past four years. Mr. Fletcher is from Winston Salem, N.C. and he is stepping down. The Vice President is now in line for the presidency. A nice letter from Bro. Forest M. Eaves, Jr., Charlotte, N.C. is now a candidate for the office of president of N.C. Ushers. His theme is "Rendering Service To God By Rendering Service To All". He is well qualified for the job. He is spiritually equipped and knowledgeable to hold this position. He is currently 1st vice pres. of State Ushers; pres. and coordinator for District III Ushers, Charlotte, N.C. area; pres. of the Mecklenburg General Baptist Association

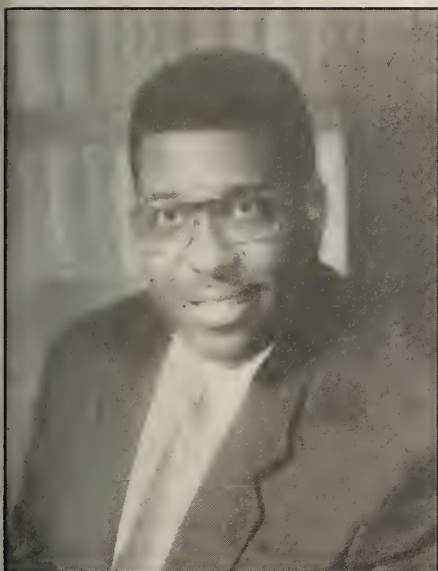
Ushers Auxiliary. He is a member of the Friendship Baptist Church, Dr. Clifford Jones, Pastor. We prayerfully solicit your vote for Forest M. Eaves for the president of N.C. State Ushers Convention. Western Union Ushers; Clinton, N.C., held their annual Ushers Fellowship Service at the Snow Hill Baptist Church, April 27, 2002 at 5:00 p.m. Rev. Jesse Smith, Pastor. Approx. 100 ushers in uniforms gathered outside-marched into the church by two's; the choir sang "Marching to Zion". Snow Hill Mass Choir Rev. Jesse Smith was the speaker. He spoke from St. Luke 10:38 and St. John 2:9-10 "Putting the Best Things First". A dynamic speaker and a soul stirring message. Next, recognition of ushers. Mt. Pleasant B. Church won the attendance prize with 14 ushers present. Bro. Earlie Melvin is their president, Dr. V. Fulwood, pastor. Closing remarks by Pres. Roy Williams. A very spiritual service and well attended. Littlefield B. Church, Newton Grove, N.C. will have their ushers' anniversary, July 14, 2002 at 3:00p.m. Mt. Zion B. Church, Dunn, N.C., Pastor Smith, choir, and ushers will be their guests. Bro. Larry Crumpler is the president. Western Union Ushers, (21) churches held a one day ushers convention at the Big Piney Grove B. Church, Clinton, N.C. May 18, 2002. Rev. James Mitchell, Pastor. Opened at 9:00a.m. A workshop was taught by Dr. Varnie Fulwood "Breaking Spiritual Bondages", Matthew 12:29. He is a dynamic teacher. It was an electrifying 45 minutes. If you ever need an instructor for your church or auxiliary, call Dr. Fullwood, pastor of the Mt. Pleasant B. Church, Clinton, N.C. "Church Etiquette", a short discussion was given by yours truly, Alice W. McNair. Pres. Roy Williams spoke of the joy he had in receiving a plaque for 42 years of ushering from the State One Day Session in Winston Salem, N.C. on Feb. 23, 2002. A very enjoyable day. Lunch was served.

Hope the 3 recipients of the longevity awards (plaques) can attend the State Ushers Convention, Raleigh, N.C. Bring your plaques. We

State Usher's cont. on page 22

NEWS

FROM THE MINISTER'S COUNCIL



Dr. Leonzo Lynch

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch, President

Greetings in the matchless name of our risen Christ! The prayers of the Ministers' Council are with each of you as you labor in the vineyard of the Master. The GBSC Ministers' Council has taken our charge from President Fuller to serve the ministers of this great convention. Our efforts have been put forth to provide resources to the clergy of this con-

vention with the aim of providing assistance and support to servants of God. This month's emphasis will continue to focus on the minister's personal library. One book that is highly recommended is:

The 12 Essential Skills For Great Preaching
By Wayne McDill/Broadman & Holman Publishers, Nashville, TN 1994, ISBN # 0-8054-2012-6

"Great delivery without effective content is often only 'sound and fury, signifying nothing.'" Dr. McDill continues, "on the other hand, striking content is of real interest to the hearer" and is a crucial part of every preacher's communication. In the **12 Essential Skills for Great Preaching**, Dr. McDill draws on 35 years of experience as a preacher and homiletics professor to show that effective preaching isn't some mysterious talent a few gifted people are born with. It is something you can learn. He presents 12 proven ways to pack more content into every sermon. He observes that the gifts necessary to be an effective pastor come from God, along with the call to preach but that recognizing and developing those gifts are each preacher's responsibility.

Minister's continued on page 12

Mini-Skills Exhibit for Youth

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

By Romas L. Hales

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Laymen's League sponsored its Annual Mini-Skills Exhibit for youth at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly located in Laurel Hill North Carolina on Saturday, May 18, 2002. The Mini-Skills Exhibit was sponsored under the leadership of Michael Kendale.

Those that participated in the Mini-Skills were as follows: Naonni Garcia - Oratorical Presentation, Sandy Run Missionary Baptist Church, Jacksonville NC. Gregory L. Thomas - Musical Solo, St. Jude Missionary Baptist Church, Hope Mills NC. Clara Dednam - Art Display, Watts Chapel Baptist Church, Raleigh NC. Alex Kendall - Science Display, Watts Chapel Baptist Church, Raleigh NC. Youth Dancers - Inspirational Dance, participants were:



Romas L. Hales

Kaela Kennedy, Christina Cantey, LaAnie Battle, Jasmine Washington, Jaleesa Ramsey, Daniella Dixon, and Kellie Cox, all of Second Calvary Baptist Church of Charlotte, NC. All the participants were very good. Clara Dednam's art display was voted the overall best. Thanks to all

Laymen's continue on page 12

NC Council of Churches calls for Public Education Sunday

By Reverend Dennis Brown, Staff Reporter

For the second year, the North Carolina Council of Churches is asking faith communities to show support for the state's public schools by holding a Public Education Sunday. The event, which has been endorsed by Tannis Nelson, President of the North Carolina PTA, and North Carolina State Superintendent Mike Ward, calls for a renewed and deepened commitment toward the public schools by North Carolina's religious leaders. While the Sabbath might begin with a special day of worship prior to the reopening of schools, it is also meant to encourage churches and congregations to take an active, ongoing role from mentoring students to advocacy.

The Sabbath Day event is not about criticizing public schools, trying to introduce religion into their classrooms or

denying the contribution made by private schools and home schools. But it recognizes that nine out of 10 children, on average, attend public schools. "The overwhelming majority of our children are educated in the public school system," said George Reed, Executive Director of the North Carolina Council of Churches. "By supporting this vital institution and working on its behalf, faith communities have the chance to improve the lives of young people across the state. By helping our schools succeed, we help our children succeed."

The Council's Committee on Public Education has spearheaded the Sabbath project to draw attention to the challenges facing the schools and encourage partnerships between churches and educators. The committee has put together a packet of information — including

NC Council continues on page 12

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Second Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a full time pastor to serve as spiritual leader, teacher and counselor for its congregation. Finalist for this position must meet the following qualifications

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- + Senior Pastor for at least 4-5 years
- + Administrative and Communication skills
- + Leadership experience: Youth ministry, community service programs, etc.
- + Willingness to affiliate with local, state, national Baptist conventions and associations
- + Present location within 5 hours driving time from Charlotte
- Willingness to submit to a police and credit check

Resumes for persons meeting these qualifications should be sent to the Pulpit Search Committee, Second Calvary Baptist Church, 114 Nelson Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28216. Resume Deadline: September 19, 2002.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Portia Brandon, M. Div., Christian Education Coordinator

THE SPIRIT OF TRUE WORSHIP

By Portia Brandon, M. Div., Christian Education Coordinator

(Following is a Christian Education exercise for youth through seniors. I selected a theme: "The Spirit of True Worship. Then I selected several topics and scriptures. A suggested way to use this exercise: 1) Breakout your class or group into small groups of 3 to 5 persons. 2) Give each group a topic allow them approximately 15-20 minutes to talk about worship and to answer the questions. 3) Re-assemble the groups together and give each sub-group 5-10 minutes to share their answers with the entire group. 4) As the groups answer the question the facilitator/group leader goes from group to group encouraging discussion and interaction).

HOW TO WORSHIP GOD

How only can God be truly worshiped?

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:24

How are we instructed to worship the Lord?

"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: worship the Lord in the beau-

ty of holiness." Psalm 29:2. What attitude is indicative of a spirit of humility and of true reverence in worship? "O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker." Psalm 95:6

VALUE AND JOY OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

What were the psalmist's feelings

concerning public worship?

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God." "For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness." (Psalms 122:1; 84:2, 10).

What admonition has Paul given

concerning assembling for public

worship?

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25).

Does God take account of the asso-

ciations of His people?

"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels [margin, "special treasure"]; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him." (See Malachi 3:16, 17).

What caution is given regarding behavior in God's house?

"Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil." (See Ecclesiastes 5:1; 1 Timothy 3:15).

Are offerings an appropriate part of divine worship?

"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts." "Vow, and pay unto the Lord your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared" (See Psalms 96:8; 76:11).

GOD'S APPOINTED TIME

The Spirit Continued on page 15

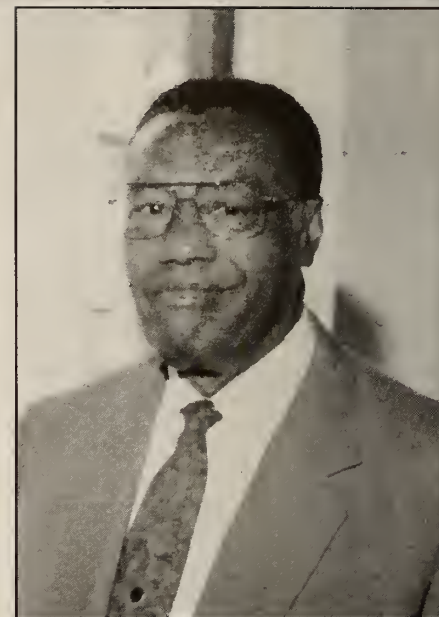
A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MOMENT

Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President, Congress of Christian Education

During our last offering we raised a question that will act as the emphasis for the remainder of this series of articles. The question, "Who Will Lead," refers to the need to plan for future outcomes that will promote the growth of the General Baptist State Convention and its Auxiliaries. We devoted the last article to God's call of Abram (Abraham). Included in that call were two imperatives that are consistent as God calls Leaders for His People. Because of your inability to avoid them you must accept and commit yourself to them if you are going to be an effective disciple for God.

This month let us focus on Moses. Remember God positioned the Israelites in Egypt so that they could reach numerical nationhood. This was achieved in light of the Egyptians attempt to thwart their growth. Turn with me to Exodus 1:15-2:10 and examine one way in which the Egyptians sought to control the growth of the Israelites. For application turn to Matthew Gospel 2:13-18 to see how our lives were impacted by this type of thinking! We should ever be mindful that God's purposes were not be thwarted by the efforts of man. God, through Moses, was cultivating a leader to bring His people out of Egypt to the land of promise where they would become the Nation of Israel. Wherein Moses' leadership was earthly Jesus' on the other hand was to establish a Spiritual or Heavenly Kingdom. Both leaders were Commissioned and Ordained by God.

Read the text of Exodus 1:15-2:10 in a Contemporary English Version of the Bible. There you can relate to the conversational exchange and observe the movement of the Hands of God in the lives of His faithful servants. Read how God preserved, protected, and prepared Moses for his Leadership role. Even though Moses was raised in splendor he had to give up his comfort zone and go to the desert, to be prepared, to do



Dr. Jasper P. Reed, President, Congress of Christian Education

God's Ministry. There is something about a desert experience that prepares us for God's work. It was this movement of God's hands that demonstrates Moses willingness to be used as a blessing from God. First, he interceded on the side of an Israelite in a fight he considered unequal between the Israelite and an Egyptian. Secondly, he interceded in a fight between two Israelites, and thirdly, he came to the aid of the daughters of Jethro when the shepherds tried to take advantage of them at the well. Moses' heart was right and this is what God needed in order to deliver the Israelites from Egypt. Moses exhibited both of God's imperatives. He was willing to leave his comfort zone and to be used as a blessing for some one else. Note that Moses spent most of his life in the desert. There God used him in a mighty way. We as Christian Educators should prepare for a life in the desert.

The Angel of the Lord called Moses while he was in the desert out near Mount Horeb. This call can be divide into five parts. It was easier for Moses to understand the call in parts than to attempt to decipher the whole. How simple our lives would be if we waited for God to explain the parts of His call on our lives rather than take what we supposed He said on act upon it. The

Christian Ed. continued on page 15

HEALTH AND FITNESS

Healing Our Hurts John 3:1-9



**Dr. Anita P. Holmes Executive
Director Office of Health and
Human Services**

**By Rev. Cornelius Moore,
Chairperson Health and Human
Services Advisory Committee Pastor,
Saint James Baptist Church, Rocky
Mount, NC**

*Sermon presented at the Faith and Health
Advocates Training, June 1, 2002, funded
through the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable
Trust SELF improvement Program.*

Over the past three decades, there have been numerous changes in the social order. Having been born in the south on a clay hill in North Carolina, the youngest of eight siblings, it is safe to say that most African-Americans were engaged in agricultural production and extractive industries. Health care services, educa-

tion and other opportunities were influenced by a pattern of racial separation that permeated much of the social reality for both races.

African-Americans comprise only 12% of the US population. However, our rates of poor health, disability, disease, and premature death are much greater than those of other groups in the population. One of the most disturbing comments that I hear most often in this 21st century is "Reverend, people are dying and going to hell everyday and you want to take the time to talk about good health practices? You need to be telling folk how to get saved. There ain't no time for that stuff."

My spirit is compelling me to throw this in parenthetically. My mother used to say to me "Son, you must learn to deal with the conjunctions in life "and until you learn that lesson you will always be struggling. So here is my conjunction "but" Psalm 103:2-5 says "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and, forget not all his benefits....who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy

Healing continues on page 15

"Highlights of the Physical Activity Module" GBSC Faith and Health Advocates Training

By Charolette H. Leach, M.S.

What is physical activity and why is it important?

Physical activity is any bodily movement produced by skeletal muscles (i.e. voluntary muscles that result in the use of energy) and includes a broad range of occupational, leisure time, and routine daily activities. *Physical activity includes tasks such as gardening, shoveling snow, and washing windows.*

Exercise is movement that is planned and structured and that causes physical movement. *Sports such as basketball,*

football, and swimming are exercise. Physical movement such as walking, jogging, and aerobics is also considered exercise.

All exercise is considered physical activity, but all physical activity is not considered exercise. Physical activity is important because:

- It improves overall health and well-being
- Research has shown that it lowers the risk of developing heart disease, Type II diabetes, high blood pressure, and colon cancer
- It helps us to live longer
- To incorporate physical activity into ones

Name of Church	_____
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Church Fax. No. (If applicable)	_____
GBSC Association	_____
Name of Health Ministry	_____
Chairperson or Leader(s) of Health Ministry	_____
Current Health Programs (Attach additional sheet if needed):	_____

Name of Program	Brief Description

What do you believe are the congregation's five most significant health problems (Please list in order of importance)?

1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____

Additional Comments: _____

Name of person Completing Form _____

Address: _____

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E-mail Address: _____ Date Form Completed _____

life requires deliberate planning

Why is physical activity important for the Christian?

- All Christians are called to a marvelous work of service for God (Mark 10: 43-45).
- Christians must be good stewards of all that God has blessed us with, includ-

ing our health (1Cor. 4: 1-2.)

- Because of the power that we have available through the Holy Ghost, Christians should be the Healthiest People in the World (Acts 1:3).

What about physical activity and the African American Community?

Highlights continued on page 19

Laymen's continued from page 9

participants and their advisors.

LAYMEN STUDY COMMISSION MEETING

The State Laymen's League held its Quarterly Study Commission Meeting on Saturday, June 8, 2002. The meeting was held at the Genesis Baptist Church of Greensboro, North Carolina where Dr. Gregory Headen serves as pastor.

President Jarvis Morgan conducted an Executive Committee Meeting at 9:00 am and the regular session started at 10:00 am. The regular session was conducted by First Vice President John Gladden. Following the devotion by the host Laymen and the welcome by Brother Richard Holt, we had greetings from President Morgan and Dr. Gregory Headen, pastor of Genesis Baptist Church.

The Christian Education session was conducted by Dr. Gregory Headen in the absence of Vice President Theodore David. The subject for the session was "Pastor's Reflection - What Men Can do to Make the Word Become Flesh".

Mr. Samuel L. Green of Raleigh conducted the Study Commission Workshop for Chairman Dallas Foster. Mr. Green conducted the workshop on the topic: "Faith in Action". He gave examples of Faith in Action in the Old Testament and the New Testament. He discussed how faith comes and how faith results in good works.

A business session was held following the workshop. We had reports from President Jarvis Morgan, the youth department by Vice President Gregory Gabriel and the Field Worker's report by Romas Hales. During the business session it was announced about the resignation of the Laymen's League Field Worker Romas L. Hales effective July 31, 2002.

Minister's continued from page 9

Combining scholarly thinking with personal examples and insights, this book offers exercises to help both recent seminary graduates and seasoned pastors identify skills that need improvement, then strengthen them at their own pace, in whatever order they feel is best. The result is preaching that lives up to your potential.

The chapters of the book are as follows:

Thanks to the Laymen and members of Genesis Baptist Church for hosting the meeting and providing a wonderful meal.

LAYMEN'S 52nd ANNUAL CONVENTION

We hope you have completed your plans to attend the State Laymen's 52nd Annual Convention on July 15-16, 2002. The host church will be Martin Street Baptist Church, located at 1001 East Martin Street, Raleigh NC 27601. Dr. Charles Bullock is the host pastor.

The convention will start on Monday, July 15, 2002 with registration starting at 8:00 am. The Laymen Executive Committee Meeting will be held at 9:00 am and the convention will be called to order at 10:00 am. We will have a Bible Study and Health Workshop that we know will be interesting to you.

The Laymen's Annual Banquet will be held on Monday at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the church, the price of the tickets are \$20.00 each.

On Monday night starting at 7:30 pm the youth program will be held. Brother Gregory Gabriel will be presiding. Please attend and give the youth your support.

There will be a Laymen Fellowship Breakfast on Tuesday morning at 7:00 am. The breakfast will be held at the church. President Morgan will give his annual address on Tuesday morning. The session will end at 12:00 noon following the closing sermon. We are asking all members of the convention for your support to make this a successful session.

Strengthening Preparation Skills
Getting the Text in View
Seeing What Is There
Asking the Right Questions
Naming the Textual Idea
Touching Human Needs
Bridging from Text to Sermon
Writing Sermon Divisions
Planning Sermon Design
Developing Sermon ideas
Exploring Natural Analogies

A Good No-Call: Let consumers have their privacy back

By Attorney General Roy Cooper

Telemarketers' sales pitches are all too familiar to most of us. They call to convince us that now would be the perfect time to order replacement windows for our home. They promise us incredible savings on our monthly phone bill if we sign up today with their long distance plan. They tell us that we may be eligible for super low interest rates if we switch to their credit card.

With a statewide No-Call Registry in place, consumers would get to choose whether or not to receive telemarketing calls. Those who want to receive calls from telemarketers wouldn't sign up with the registry. But those of us who want to stop telemarketers from calling would simply register our name and telephone number. While non-profit organizations would still be able to call, all other telemarketers would be required to respect our privacy and remove us from company call lists.

While there are plenty of legitimate, law-abiding telemarketers out there, my office also gets many complaints about telemarketers who are calling to con consumers. According to the Federal Trade Commission, fraudulent telemarketers scam unsuspecting U.S. consumers for as much as \$40 billion a year. Some of the most common and successful telemarketing schemes claim to sell international lottery tickets, advance fee loans, and credit card or identity theft protection. Fraudulent telemarketers try to convince consumers that they have won a large prize but must pay taxes, customs duties, shipping or other fees up front.

A North Carolina No-Call registry would cut down on these scams by giving consumers another way to protect themselves. The new law that I have proposed would require that telemarketers send a written contract to consumers who have purchased services over the telephone. That will eliminate bad deals, and the quicker you catch on to a scam, the safer your hard-earned money and the less likely you are to become a victim.

I hope that state lawmakers will act quickly to establish a No-Call registry here in North Carolina. In the meantime, there are a few steps you can take to cut down on telemarketing calls. When a telemarketer calls and asks you to buy their products, ask them to place you on their No-Call list. Federal and state laws require companies to maintain a record of your request. If that company calls you again within 12 months of placing you on their list, let my Consumer Protection Division know about it.

Attorney General Roy Cooper and his staff want to help North Carolinians protect their privacy and their money. We are here to be of service when you need us, but through consumer education efforts like these columns we hope to help consumers avoid problems from the start. (919)716-0044, PO Box 629, Raleigh, NC 27602-0629

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NC Council continued from page 9

everything from ideas for sermons to examples of successful school-church partnerships — which is available on the Council's web site (www.nccouncilofchurches.org).

AUXILIARY NEWS

ELECTION PROTOCOL FOR 2002 GBSC, INC AUXILIARY UNITY SESSION

If you are seeking an Officer of the Congress please write a letter stating your intent to run for the specific position to the Chairman of the Congress Election Nominating Committee, Dr. David Forbes. Mail your letter to GBSC Headquarters on or before July 1, 2002.

If you are seeking an Officer of the Usher's Convention please write a letter stating your intent to run for the specific position to The Usher's Election Nominating Committee. Mail to GBSC Headquarters on or before July 1, 2002.

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LAYMEN'S LEAGUE: JULY 15, 2002

During the business session of the Laymen's League Session, July 15, 2002 the nominating committee will present Officers to the body. The Laymen Messengers" will vote on the nominating committee report.

THE CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: JULY 16-18, 2002

The election of all Officers for the Congress of Christian Education of the GBSC will take place at Martin Street Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC., July 17, 2002. The procedures are as follows,

Candidates will be present at Martin Street Baptist Church, on Tuesday July 16, 2002 at 2:30 PM to certify your candidacy. This process will enable the Congress and GBSC Election Committees to make a Ballot to be used during the election process. On Wednesday July 17, 2002 from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM Candidates will be allotted time to make remarks before the session.

Churches shall represent and enroll before their Messengers can vote. Each voter must have a Badge in order to enter the voting area.

Voting will take place in a designated area, at Martin Street Baptist Church on Wednesday, July 17, 2002: Beginning at 2 PM Only certified voters will be permitted to cast ballots.

The Election Committee will notify us during our Wednesday night program whether or not run-offs are necessary. If there be any we will Cast Ballots, Thursday Morning, 9 AM to 10 AM July 18, 2002. The Committee will prepare to introduce the new Officers.

At or about 12 Noon on Thursday July 18, 2002 the new Slate of Officers to serve The Congress of Christian Education until 2006 will be introduced, installed and charged during worship.

THE USHER'S CONVENTION JULY 19-20, 2002

The election of all Officers for the Usher's Convention of the General Baptist State Convention will be held at Martin Street Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC., July 20 2002. The procedures are as follows,

Candidates will be present at Martin Street Baptist Church, on Friday, July 19 2002 at 2:00 PM to certify your candidacy. This process will enable the Usher's and GBSC Election Committees to make a Ballot to be used during the election process. On

2002

CHURCH VOTING ELECTION FEE REQUIREMENTS CONGRESS & USHERS

CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE OF \$200.00

EACH CHURCH SHALL PAY REGISTRATION FEE
 BASED ON POPULATION OF CHURCH - PLEASE SEE GBSC
 CONSTITUTION - ARTICLE X.

VOTING MESSENGERS ARE DETERMINED BY GBSC CONSTITUTION ARTICLE X.

EXAMPLE:

CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE	\$200.00
CHURCH VOTING REGISTRATION FEE	35.00

(BASED ON CHURCH POPULATION - ARTICLE X)

church fee of \$35.00 entitles church to 3 voting messengers

<u>TOTAL CHURCH COST TO VOTE</u>	<u>235.00</u>
----------------------------------	---------------

ALL VOTING MESSENGERS WILL RECEIVE A VOTING BADGE AND KIT

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF GBSC CONGRESS AND USHERS ELECTION FORMS TO GBSC HEADQUARTERS - JUNE 24, 2002

* All non-voting messengers shall pay \$10.00 registration fee.

Friday July 19, 2002 from 7:00 PM to 7:30 PM Candidates will be allowed to make statements before the body.

Churches shall represent and enroll before their Messengers can vote. Each voter must have a Badge in order to enter the voting area.

Voting will take place in a designated area, at Martin Street Baptist Church on Saturday, July 20, 2002: Beginning at 10 AM. Only certified voters will be permitted to cast ballots.

The Election Committee will notify us of results at 12 Noon. The new officers will be introduced and installed at that time.

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For additional information call 804-876-5561

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The Spirit Continued from page 10**What day has God specially designed for public worship?**

"The seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation." Leviticus 23:3.

How has God commanded us to keep this day?

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy... In it thou shalt not do any work." (See Exodus 20:8-10; Isaiah 58:13, 14.)

Will there be public worship in the new creation?

"As the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord." See Isaiah 66:22, 23). "...the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord." (See Isaiah 66:22, 23).

Christian Ed. continued from page 10 —Quiz A Desert Experience

First part of the call was a set of circumstances designed to get Moses' attention, read Exodus 3:1-3. The Second part was to confront him so that he could be introduced to God, read Exodus 3:4-10. The Third part was designed to disarm and dismay him (consternation) so that his heart was receptive, read Exodus 3:11-15. The Fourth part was to give Moses instructions concerning His mission, read Exodus 3: 15-22. Finally, God responded to Moses' complaints and fears, read Exodus 4:1-17. God reassures us by giving us the resources to do His Kingdom Work. He did this for Moses and He will do it for us.

A Christian Education Moment for our YOUTH and Young-at-Heart —**Healing Cont. from top of page 15**

Churches are not built for the sake of the building, but for the benefit of the people both in, but especially outside of the church, that they might be brought close to the pool and that they may be healed from their sickness and cleansed from their guilt. People need to know that there is life in the pool...that there is mercy in God and that there is a full fountain of healing springing up in dry

Healing Continued from page 11

mouth with good things (such as food); so that thy youth is renewed like the eagles'.

Now let's look at that text. It talks about an odd shaped pool that is a little north of the temple in Jerusalem surrounded by five porches called Bethesda, where crowds of sick people lay waiting for the troubling of the water. Watch this—notice there was no equipment, no doctors, no nurses, no staff, and no medicine. Just a complex of five porches called Bethesda. The pool was known to have healing powers at certain times. That is why the five porches are called Bethesda. Bethesda means "house of mercy" or "house of healing." It is a good name for the place situated around the pool. The people were waiting around the pool because they had been told that when the water was troubled, the first to jump in the pool after the troubling of the water was to be healed of whatever disease he or she had.

1. Who was Moses and Aaron talking to in this scripture? Exodus 5:3
2. Which Mountain did the Israelites visit in the desert? Exodus 19:2
3. What was the promise that God made to the Israelites in this scripture? Exodus 23:31
4. How will God's chosen people get water? Isaiah 43:20
5. How will the Lord show compassion to Jerusalem? Isaiah 51:3
6. Who will be told about a desert wind? Jeremiah 4:11-12
7. What was Jeremiah's wish? Jeremiah 9:2
8. Who was Luke describing in this scripture? Luke 1:80

deserts of despair. The world needs to know that disabilities can be transcended... deficiencies can be transformed and disadvantages can be overcome by the power of God. Churches are built in order to proclaim this hope. Notice also that the porches were only valuable because they led to the pool. The porches were not good to anyone unless that person went beyond the porch and got into the pool.

Healing continues on page 18

Let me back up and make it plain. Remember, there were no nurses, no staff, and no doctors. There are some things we can do to improve our health condition without the aid of others. Notice the mode of transportation that Jesus exercised most of the time. You got it right, he walked. So why not walk a mile or two or maybe even three! When I was growing up and learning to play the guitar, one of the first country songs that I learned says "walk a mile, cry a smile for my mommy and daddy... I want them to know that I love them so"

So why not exercise that heart muscle by walking a mile, and if it hurts, cry a smile, because God loves you and desires that you have an abundant life. You do not need a staff of nurses or doctors to change your eating habits. In I Corinthians 9:27 the apostle Paul said, "I buffet my body and make it my slave" (NASB). Now let's face it. The word "buffet" in this passage isn't pronounced, "buf-fay", and Paul isn't telling us to eat a table full of delicacies. Sorry—he's advising us to discipline our bodies. In this text John shows us God's work and our work side by side.

If healing is to come forth, God must work, but we must work, too. God's work does not displace our work, but it makes our work both possible and necessary. An old revivalist, Rev. W.E. Beamon once said, "There is no need of praying and asking God to come down from heaven to make him a pan of biscuits because He was not gonna do that. But he, thanked the Lord for sending an old lady by his house with a pan of biscuits."

God has given us knowledge, strength, wisdom and some power to do some things for ourselves. Diabetes, cancer, and

heart disease can be prevented or complications reduced. These three principles are found to be true:

Eat the things God created for food, and avoid everything else. Eat the things created for food before they are changed into nutrient deficient toxic products.

Avoid addiction.

Isaiah 48: 11,18 says I am the Lord your God who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea."

Look at the text again. We do not know who or what construction company built these porches at Bethesda. But we do know that there is a picture of the cooperation that exists between God and us. God opens up a pool of healing, but we must build the porches around the pool. God provides the healing but we must provide the supportive services of hospitals and clinics and foster careers in nursing and medicine. God opens up fountains of spiritual healing but we must build the churches around the experience and make available to others the good news of salvation and the possibility of new creations and moral energy to change the world.

God reveals both truth and wisdom. God scoops up the pool of opportunity, but we must build up the 5 porches of human responsibility and those porches are faith, hope, love, wisdom, and work! Yes, God digs the pools but we must build the porches. Notice if you will, the purpose of the porches. The porches were built in order to help people come close to the pool. The healing power was not found in the porches, but in the pool.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BAPTIST MINISTER'S UNION

BAPTIST MINISTERS UNION OF ASHEVILLE & SURROUNDING AREAS

By LEVONIA C RAY, PRESIDENT

The All Christian Training Institute sponsored by the Baptist Ministers Union of Asheville and Surrounding Areas, Dr. L. C. Ray, President was held on Sunday April 21, 2002 through Thursday, April 25, 2002. The Institute opened with a Worship Service on Sunday, April 21, 2002 at New Mount Olive Baptist Church. The speaker was Rev. O. T. Tomes, former pastor of New Mount Olive Baptist Church. 10 classes were offered Monday through Thursday at Hill Street Baptist Church host, Dr. N. M. Avery, Pastor.

1. Dr. & Mrs. Avery taught ministers & Wives class.
2. Deacons & Deaconess — Dr. C. R. Mosley
3. Trustees — Mrs. Willie Vincent.
4. Sunday School, Christian Education & B. T. U. — Dr. John Grant
5. Ushers- Mrs. Pauline Young & Mrs. Roberta

Anderson

6. Music — Mrs. Treavor Chavis & Mr. William Hamilton

7. Practical Guide through the Book of Romans — Rev. F. Johnson

8. Youth — Ages 4—7—Mrs. Vonda Mills

9. Youth - Ages 8—12- Mrs. Ci Ci Morton & Ms. Joyce Gilmore

Teenagers — Ages 13-19—Mrs. Robbie Williams & Mrs. Shirley Brooks

The Institute closed on Thursday night with a Mini Concert by the Music Class and presentations from each Youth Class. We were blest to have present with us on Thursday night, Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer of General Baptist State Convention and Dr. Charles T. Bullock, Vice President at Large of the General Baptist State Convention. Refreshments were served each night with Mrs. Dora Dawkins in charge.



Ministers take a break at the Baptist Minister's Union of Asheville



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MORE HIGHLIGHTS



Registration Table; (Registrars l to r Louise Ray, Rosa Roberts, Catherine Whipple, and Ben Hall)



Sunday School & Christian Education Class

Pastor Ph.D. continues from page 7
members of his family attended the event.

Jenkins received his Bachelor of Arts degree in English with *summa cum laude* honors from North Carolina

Central University in Durham, his Master of Arts in Education degree from The University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and his Master of Arts degree in English from UNCC. The title of Jenkins's 216-page dissertation was

"Playing by the Rules and Losing: The Merit Myth in Selected African American Fiction." In it, he used six literary characters from the works of Charles Waddell Chesnutt, Walter Francis White, Ann Petry, and Ralph Waldo Ellison to argue

that race, class, and gender—despite individual merit—often hamper people in their pursuit of the American dream. Dr. Sally Ann H. Ferguson directed the dissertation.

Pastor PhD continues on page 29

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*See page 28 insert for more
information*

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Phyllis Coley
Publisher

Healing Continues from page 15

So it is with the church, some folk are still on the porch and have not gotten into the pool.

The church is valuable and necessary only in so far as it points beyond itself to Jesus Christ. Its buildings are worthless and its doctrines are false, its teachings are fertile, its music is dull, its preaching is hallow and empty "unless" they point the way to Jesus Christ. It will do the church no good to point to its building, budget, its bank account... the main question still remains —Is Jesus Christ the focus of its life? Is Jesus Christ the center of its joy? Is Jesus Christ the source of its power? In case you don't know, let me share with you that the effectiveness of what we do is predicated on what God is doing. Nothing that we do is anything in and of itself unless it is of God!

Bethesda is meaningless without the troubling of the pool. We can't do anything without God. Even the medicine is nothing unless God blesses it. The doctor is nothing unless God uses the doctor. The teacher is nothing unless God inspires the teacher...the church is nothing unless God visits the church...the preacher is nothing unless God puts a word in the mouth of the preacher—puts the Holy Ghost in the heart of the preacher—puts life in the soul of the preacher—and puts fire in the bones of

the preacher. Jesus said "I am the vine and ye are the branches... as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

Now again, if you notice the text there are three things that I want to lift before you. First, the compassionate question—Do you want to be whole? This question suggests that healing is a choice. You must first admit that you are hurting. During the past twenty years of ministry, I have concluded that some people don't want their hurts healed. Some folk don't want to change anything. Just because some folk show up on Sunday morning does not mean that they want to be healed, transformed, or delivered. This would mean that things would have to change in their daily walk. No longer would you be able to blame someone else for your infirmities.

But sir, I have no man to put me in the pool when the water is troubled. But while I am coming, another steps down into the pool before me. That's not the question that Jesus asked the man. It's time for each of us to take full responsibility for our health and who we are in Christ Jesus. Secondly, it's in your hands—we must choose healing over our hurts. Yes, that does mean added responsibility. So I'll walk a mile and if it hurts, I walk another mile...and if some-

one is looking at me as my body aches, I'll cry a smile. It's in your hands. If you want to be made whole, if you want the healing of your hurts to take place then start with the God given abilities that already have. My daughter said to me several years ago when I was sick, "Daddy, you have lived for years eating anything that you desired, now it's time for you to eat to live because I want to keep my daddy as long as I can."

Finally, in verse 8, Jesus said unto him,

"Rise, take up thy bed and walk." When you choose healing over hurts there is a blessed result. Notice that the water had to be troubled in order to have a healing effect. The water could not heal as long as it was still—it had to be troubled in order to bless and heal. Even though you may be troubled with some health problems, don't give up. Rather look up and thank God for the trouble in your life, for new possibilities will spring up and

Healing continued on page 19



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Reverend Sandra Holland-Trotter

WISDOM

By Reverend Sandra Holland-Trotter
Pastor / Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church
Fayetteville, North Carolina

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Not the fear of disappointment, of contention, of strife; for they are not of God. The wisdom of the Lord is exemplified for us in the life of Jesus. Have we been disappointed? Have our wishes, our desires failed to be fulfilled? We are still conquerors; for in Him we have strength and power and might. Let us remember "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose."

Our Lord taught that: If thy brother smite thee, turn the other cheek; if he takes away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also; if he faces thee to go one mile, go with him two. In such teaching there is wisdom, for we are not hindered by the act, while our brother is blessed by being in the presence of the Divine. Nothing except the spirit of God within us loves our enemies. Do we say in our heart, yes but this was the teaching of the Son of God, and He had the strength that is not within me? We have the

promise of the Son "Lo I am with you always" and through Him greater works shall we do. He that giveth a cup of water in the name of Christ loses not his reward. It is not wisdom to give it that we may be well spoken of, but rather that the glory of the Father may be made manifest. It is to the glory of the Father when love prompts the activity, when love prompts the desire to be a blessing to others. Then, we are co-workers with Him. This is wisdom, the wisdom that is of God.

Wisdom is first a matter of choice, of will in the light of that which is our ideal, and in the manner in which we apply it in our experience with others. The concept, the will, the appreciation became a triune in the experience of each of us, if however, in the appreciation we became selfish, exalt the Prince of Peace, and seek the glory of the Father, we will find ourselves in His consciousness. This is the true approach; this is the beginning of wisdom. Knowledge of the fear of God is the

beginning of wisdom. The whole law is to love God. With our entire mind, body, soul and our neighbor as ourselves; that He-the Father, in the Son may be exalted.

We should use that which we may have in hand and more will be given to meet our needs, whether they are mental, material or spiritual. Jesus is the pattern of perfection. We, as He, in seeking to know the wisdom of the Father, are brought to an understanding through patience, long suffering, and brotherly love. The knowledge of God, the wisdom of God, applied in our daily experience bring strength and harmony; even the turmoil's of the earth — sorrow, shame, want, and degradation — become worthwhile experiences, if we meet them in the wisdom of God.

Where strife, turmoil, self — glory and self-exaltation are present, there is no true wisdom of God. If we would have love, then we must show love. If we want peace, we must be peaceable. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach. We must embrace the wisdom of God through His word and through his works. The wisdom of God will manifest in every situation and circumstance in our lives if we are open to His spirit, voice and will. God's divine wisdom speaks daily as it awakens our mind, spirit, emotions, and temple. It pulls from the very consciousness of our thoughts, actions, words and deeds. Our applications of these truths should be practicable in our everyday life, and not merely tenets or sayings that pass away. As we live then, they become living, enduring realities. "Seek Wisdom."

Highlights continued from page 11

Physical activity during leisure time has been measured in population surveys. The following has been found:

- About one-fourth of U. S. adults, do not engage in any leisure-time physical activity.
- More women than men are not physically active.
- Whites were more physically active than Blacks, Hispanics, and persons categorized as "other".
- White men was the one group that was most likely to be active.
- Black women was the one group that was most likely to be inactive.

What about youth and young adults?

Physical inactivity among youth has also been measured in population surveys. The following has been found with regard to youth ages 12-21 years of age:

- Physical activity is higher among males than females.

• White students tend to be more physi-

cally active than black students.

- White females tend to be more physically active than black females.
- For both males and females, physical activity decreased with age.

Contributors to Overall Health Outlook

Heredity, Traditions, and Customs contribute to our Overall Health Outlook!

**We live what we see and are taught. We learn our physical activity habits from our parents and grandparents, and then pass them on to our children

**We must take the necessary steps to become more physically active in order to Preserve our health, all to the Glory of God!

Healing continued from 18

leap up from tension and frustration. Healing comes out of troubled waters; it uncovers some hidden gifts...it releases some suppressed songs. Healing comes from brokenness—salvation is raised up out of trouble. You've got to break a seed before you can make it grow...you've got

Humanitarian Cont. from page 7

Issues facing their countries," said the Rev. McCullough. "Now they are asking us to meet with their presidents to strengthen the churches' work for peace and human rights." Added the Rev. McCullough, "We're watching Liberia with both anxiety at the worsening security situation and hope that a much-anticipated peace conference can take place in Monrovia in July."

Church World Service is an international humanitarian agency of 38 Protestant, Orthodox and Anglican denominations — comprising 50 million U.S. Christians the member denominations of the National Council of Churches U.S.A.

to crush a rose petal before it will give up sweet perfume...you've got to agitate the strings of a violin before it brings forth music.

This man in our text said that it was only after Jesus stirred up the water, stirred up my mind, stirred up my attitude ...it was only after Jesus stirred up

my behavior, that I received some blessed results. So pick up your bed and walk. Walk if your health is bad—walk anyhow, you'll get stronger. Where there is a will there is a way. So stand up, look up, get up, stay up, keep up, pick up—take up your bed and walk, Jesus told the man

Healing continued on page 22

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE NEWS

A Message from the Director of Church Relations!

*Attention all African-American Singles and African-American Couples!
Bridge the gap to permanency through Adoption and Foster Care!*

By Reverend Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations
CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

The CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry shared in the celebration of May's National Adoption Month by welcoming Dr. Larry Williams, President of Harvest of Hope Family Services Network, Inc. of New Jersey. During his visit, Dr. Williams shared with us his concerns regarding the crisis that we face in the United States dealing with our children in the child welfare system. The crisis is not only in North Carolina, but New Jersey and all across the state. Like the CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, the Harvest of Hope Family Services Network, Inc. is committed to making the difference in the life of a child. Harvest of Hope has mobilized church communities throughout New Jersey to address the crisis. The churches in the existing network establish nurturing environments for babies by recruiting potential foster parents, providing relief to foster families through babysitting services and donations, and providing facilities for training and special events. Harvest of Hope cares about the children and is committed to do something about it. North Carolina needs your help! The CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry needs your help! Will you make the difference in the life of a child?

There is a story about 4 people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important mission to be done and Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry because it was Everybody's mission. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody, when Nobody did what Anybody could have done. In essence this story reminds us of our call and mission from God. Everybody has a mission from God. The

Lord has need of you. He has a job that He wants each and every one of us to do. Adoption and Foster Care is someone's mission. Maybe you are thinking like many people think today, that God can't use you. You are too young, you're too old, you don't make enough money, you don't live in the right kind of house; any excuse one can think of is an excuse as to why you can't be used by God. If God chose you to the ministry of adoption and/or foster care; He will see you through. Make the first step; contact us so we can help you get started. "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." (1 Corinthians 2:9)

Support this ministry by becoming an adoptive parent or a foster care parent and volunteer to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African-American Children. With your help, we can make a difference in the life of a child. Please contact me for more information on what you can do to help make a difference in a child's life. You may write me:

Reverend Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations

610 Maywood Avenue Suite A
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609 or
E-mail me; Nwrightabsc@aol.com or
telephone me; 919-754-8800.

The Paige Highlight Introduces

Reverend G.I. Allison, CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Committee Chairman

By Earl Horton.

CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Director of Public Relations

Scripture: Exodus 36:1-2 "And Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whom the LORD has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, shall do according to all that the LORD has commanded." Then Moses called Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whose heart the LORD had put wisdom, everyone whose heart was stirred, to come and do the work. (NKJV)

The Reverend G.I. Allison, Pastor of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Greensboro, NC was recently appointed the new CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry Committee chairman. In a recent interview with him I was overwhelmed of his abundance of wisdom, skill and intelligence concerning adoption and foster care. He certainly has an enormous task before him of leading the ministry to a higher level of recruiting in the faith communities in the state of North Carolina. With the strong support of the CBSC family to work along with his leadership, we will be more successful in finding permanent homes for African American children. Please take



By Earl Horton
(pictured above)

CBSC Adoption & Foster Care Ministry - Director of Public Relations

the time to read the interview. Get to know, personally, the new Chairman of the CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry.

EH: Pastor Allison how does it feel to become the CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Committee Chairman?

GA: Actually, it's a feeling of returning home in a way because I have been involved through Friends of Black

Paige Highlight Cont. on page 21

Exclusive Paige Highlight

Take Care Of the Children, A Farewell

Written By

Reverend Gwendolyn Horton

As one of the founders of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Adoption and Foster Care Ministry it is with ambivalence that I must say good-bye. Effective June 28, 2002, my position with the State of North Carolina as Program Manager of the Adoption and Foster Care Exchange has been rified.

It was a rewarding experience to collectively work with so many adoption advocates around the state and nation that truly cared about the placement of children into loving homes. The CBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is currently funded through June 2002. I anticipate that funding will be available the next state fiscal year. Even though my position will no longer be a part of the ministry the need for the placement of children will not stop. I urge each

pastor to look within your congregation and share the news that we are allowing our children to grow up in foster care. We must quickly enhance our ministry to identify couples and singles both male and female that dare to make a difference in the life of a child.

The late Dr. Joseph Paige, Amelia Lance and I recognized the need in 1998

Take Care Continues on page 29

**SEE PAGE 24 FOR
INFORMATION ON
ADOPTION KIDS**

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Paige Highlight cont. from page 20

Children in Orange County and through "One Church, One Child" project so to be granted an opportunity to return to working to find permanent homes for children again reminds me of coming home.

EH: What work did you do with Friends of Black Children?

GA: Actually, I was the founding chairman of Friends of Black Children Council in Northern Orange County. Also, I served on the Friends of Black Children state board. We recruited fami-

lies and worked with Social Services to find homes for children who were eligible for adoption.

EH: Did you have the support from the faith community?

GA: We had tremendous support from the faith community. We also had support from the community and civic groups.

EH: What interest do you have in relation to Adoption and Foster Care?

GA: To find homes for children who are lingering in the system in need of good,

Paige Highlight cont. on page 25

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| 01. Your Anchor Holds And Grips The Solid Rock | 56. He That Has A Friend Must Show Himself Friendly |
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| 03. God Said It, I Believe & That Settles It / It All Adds Up | 58. Occupy Till I Come |
| 04. Burn Up Or Burn Out For God | 59. A Man On A Mission/The Borrowed Ax |
| 05. Busted Britches From Straddling The Fence | 60. Busy In God's Business |
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| 07. Don't Even Think About It | 62. He's Alive And I Am Glad About It |
| 08. Fired Up By The Holy Ghost | 63. What The World Needs Now Is Love Sweet Love |
| 09. Are You Full Of The Stuff | 64. I Moved From My Old House And My Old Friends |
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| 15. He Lifted Me Up Out Of The Miry Clay | 70. Who Is This Man |
| 16. Look Where The Lord Has Brought Me From | 71. What Would Jesus Do |
| 17. If My People | 72. If I Could But Touch The Hem Of His Garment |
| 18. We Can Do It For A New Day Has Come | 73. Come See A Man Twenty-One (21) New Sermons |
| 19. I Know What Prayer Can Do | 74. Wounded By The Ones You Love |
| 20. Put Some Clothes On Child | 75. How To Stand In The Storms Of Life |
| 21. A Right Thing In A Wrong Time | 76. Don't Quit |
| 22. The Man Who Had Everything But The Right Thing | 77. Speak To Me Lord Jesus |
| 23. Soap For The Soul | 78. Get Behind Me Satan |
| 24. Stay On The Lord's Side | 79. Good Things Happen When Jesus Shows Up |
| 25. If You Take One Step He'll Take Two | 80. Where Are You? Adam |
| 26. Stepping In Your Own Mess | 81. Committed Because I Am Submitted |
| 27. I Can't Lose With The Stuff I Use | 82. Are You A Disciplined Disciple |
| 28. You Can't Touch This | 83. Answering God's Call |
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| 30. That's The Way He Died But That's Not The End Of The Story | 85. Thrilled By His Will |
| 31. What You See Is What You Get | 86. These Things Only Come By Prayer and Fasting |
| 32. What's Faith Got To Do With It | 87. Just Like Daddy |
| 33. You Can't Make It Without God | 88. I Got Two Wing And The World Can't Do Me No Harm |
| 34. I Just Want To Say... "Thank You Lord" | 89. The Prayer Of Jabez |
| 35. A Heart Like Thine | 90. I Will Meet You On The Other Side |
| 36. Just A Closer Walk With Thee | 91. Can't Come Right Now, I Am On Duty |
| 37. Give Me A Clean Heart So I Can Serve You | 92. What A Mighty God We Serve |
| 38. What Ever The Problem God Has The Answer | 93. When Life Makes You Wonder |
| 39. Peace - In The Midst Of My Storm | 94. Fighting Mad |
| 40. I Am On The Right Road, Now! | |
| 41. A Good Man In A Bad Situation | |
| 42. Good Medicine For A Bad Ailment | |
| 43. Stand Up And Testify | |
| 44. Bad Boys! What You'll Going To Do When He Comes For You | |
| 45. Angels Just Keep Watching Over Me | |
| 46. Go Ahead! Make My Day | |
| 47. A Trip To The Cross | |
| 48. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! He Is Somebody's Preacher | |
| 49. On The Day Of Pentecost | |
| 50. Jesus Is All That! And A Whole Lot More | |
| 51. Muddy Putty In The Potters Hands | |
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| 53. Black Men And Women, Changing A Generation | |
| 54. I Am Black But I Am Somebody | |
| 55. Staying Afloat In A Sinking Boat | |

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State Usher's Cont. from page 8

will try and get you three together for a picture and put it in the paper. They are: Mrs. Treva Leance, Tar Heel, N.C., 68 years; Mrs. Effie Cooper, Elizabeth City, N.C., 52 years; and Mr. Roy Williams, Autryville, N.C., 42 years. My apologies to Rev. Oledia Troublefield, Mt. Olive, N.C. and pres. of Kenansville Eastern Association Ushers. Received your list of ushers; wrote it and sent it in April news. All your ushers with 50 years or more of service was named it was never printed. Don't know what happened. Will try again in August news. Until next time. May the Good Lord bless and keep you. Send usher news to:

P.O. Box 105, Newton Grove, N.C. 28366

Crime continues from page 7

institutions.

Important Note

Every conference attendee that wants to participate in events inside the institutions must be cleared through NCIC security checks by filling out a security check authorization form. This two-part form can be obtained from GBSC headquarters or by contacting the FCC Pastoral Care Department at 919 575-4541 ext. 4300. The form can be filled out and faxed back to (919) 575-2011.

This year's conference will allow conference attendees to experience the impact of crime and incarceration by being in the midst of this crisis during the conference.

This is an opportunity to see what the Lord is doing in the midst of crime and incarceration. Prayerfully, this will lead to greater spiritual understanding in responding and supporting this great work. GBSC pastors are encouraged to send a representative who will be leading your church's response to crime and incarceration.

Humanitarian Cont. from page 19

Issues facing their countries," said the Rev. McCullough. "Now they are asking us to meet with their presidents to strengthen the churches' work for peace and human rights." Added the Rev. McCullough, "We're watching Liberia with both anxiety at the worsening security situation and hope that a much-anticipated peace conference can take place in Monrovia in July."

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State Usher's cont. from page 21

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28366

Healing continued from page 19

what to do because Jesus had already given him the strength to do it. That's the way God works. He said you don't have to wait around here for the troubling of the water.

We, too must not wait for someone else to do for us what we can do for ourselves. We can change our eating habits, include some exercise in our schedule, and look to Jesus. Can't you hear Him saying that I have what you need because I am what you need. I am bread of life for the hungry...to the blind I am the light of the world...to the lost I am the good shepherd to the outcast I am the door...to the rejected I am the true vine...to the weary I am the way...to the hopeless I am the

bright and morning star...to the dead I am the resurrection and the life.

There's a man walking around here—He has all power in his hand—there's a man walking around taking the names of persons who want to be healed—He healed my body—He healed my soul—He lifted my head—He changed my name—What He's done for me, He will do for you!!!!

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5.95%	5	595.00	297.50	148.75	29.75	14.88	7.44
5.95%	6	595.00	297.50	148.75	29.75	14.88	7.44
6.70%	7	670.00	335.00	167.50	33.50	16.75	8.38

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Rates	Years	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
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4.04% Annual Yield	1	20,808.00	10,404.00	5,202.00	1,040.40	520.20	260.10
4.75%	1 1/2	\$21,459.11	\$10,729.56	\$5,364.78	\$1,072.96	\$536.48	\$268.24
4.81% Annual Yield	2	21,968.77	10,984.38	5,492.19	1,098.44	549.22	274.61
	2 1/2	22,490.52	11,245.26	5,622.63	1,124.53	562.26	281.13
5.40%	3 1/2	\$24,100.34	\$12,050.17	\$6,025.08	\$1,205.02	\$602.51	\$301.25
5.47% Annual Yield							
5.95%	4 1/2	\$26,038.51	\$13,019.26	\$6,509.63	\$1,301.93	\$650.96	\$325.48
6.04% Annual Yield	5 1/2	27,610.85	13,805.43	6,902.71	1,380.54	690.27	345.14
6.70%	6 1/2	\$30,694.90	\$15,347.45	\$7,673.73	\$1,534.75	\$767.37	\$383.69
6.81% Annual Yield	7 1/2	32,785.91	16,392.95	8,196.48	1,639.30	819.65	409.82
	8	33,884.24	16,942.12	8,471.06	1,694.21	847.11	423.55
7.00%	8 1/2	\$35,893.51	\$17,946.76	\$8,973.38	\$1,794.68	\$897.34	\$448.67
7.12% Annual Yield	9	37,149.78	18,574.89	9,287.45	1,857.49	928.74	464.37
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Introducing Taylor and Tyquante...



Taylor and Tyquante

Taylor and Tyquante are nice boys who like to help out around their foster home by doing dishes, taking out the trash and mowing the lawn. They both enjoy playing with their toy cars and trucks and reading.

A Closer Look at Taylor...

Taylor has a beautiful smile and a witty personality. He likes to play basketball, football, swimming and skating. He also enjoys reading Harry Potter books and he has a special interest in drawing. Taylor is certified Learning Disabled and, although he is currently in the 6th grade in school, he functions at the 3rd grade level and attends some resource classes. Taylor attends tutoring twice a week, but it is very hard for him to stay focused for long. He also attends counseling to help him learn to control his behaviors better. Birthday: June 12, 1990

A Closer Look at Tyquante...

Tyquante is a sweet, lovable boy whose special interest is singing. He likes to watch cartoons, play with his blocks and go swimming, skating or riding his bike. Tyquante has been certified Educably Mentally Disabled and receives resource classroom assistance. Tyquante is in the 3rd grade but functions at a 1st

Taylor & Tyquante continues on page 25

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Taylor & Tyquante cont. from p24

grade level. He takes medication to help him stay focused and calm in the classroom. He also attends weekly counseling. Birthday: September 21, 1992

A Family for Taylor and Tyquante...

While they are fairly independent and require no assistance in their daily living activities, Taylor and Tyquante are significantly behind in their schoolwork and need parents that will provide them with the high level of supervision and structure required for them to be successful. Their new family should be actively involved with their school system to ensure that their academic needs are met. Their parents will need to be accepting of their challenges, yet supportive of their successes and loving at all times. Most of all, they will need to open their hearts and homes to both Taylor and Tyquante. (NC #060-1155) (NC #060-1156) For more information on these children or adoption, in general, please call the NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care toll free Hotline at 1-877-625-4371.

Paige Highlight cont. from page 21

solid, and nurturing homes. Many African American children are in the system due to family hardships, problems, etc. African American children are in the system 5 to 7 times longer than Caucasian children waiting to be adopted.

ER: What led you to become an adoptive parent?

GA: My wife and I received the calling from Christ. The calling was similar like the calling I received into the ministry. It was a burden that the Lord laid on our hearts and we followed by adopting 4 children. There were no support groups such as Friends of Black Children. We had already adopted our children at the time I began working with the council. My parents were foster parents also.

EH: Has the experience of being an adoptive parent been rewarding?

GA: Very rewarding and challenging. Very rewarding because we know that we have been apart of god's ministry, work, design for all mankind because the will of God is to minister to the

The Paige Highlight cont. on p 29

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ELECTION NEWS

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Effective June 1, 2002 I am withdrawing my name as a candidate for the President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina incorporated. My Prayers and Best Wishes to Dr. J. C. Harris and Dr. Charles Bullock as candidates! To my many friends who encouraged me and showed your support to me, I Thank You.

It is time for my family and I to move on to other things and challenges. May God richly bless all of you the General Baptist State Convention, Inc.

FOREST M. EAVES, JR. A Candidate for President Of The Ushers Convention Auxiliary to The General Baptist State Convention

**"Rendering Service To God By
Rendering Service To All"**

Forest M. Eaves, Jr. is spiritually equipped and knowledgeable to hold the position of President. Listed is a summary of his skills and experience:
FOR THE STATE:

First Vice President of GBSC 1996 –
Second Vice President of GBSC 1992-1996

Fourth Vice President of GBSC 1988-1992

FOR THE DISTRICT:

President/Coordinator of District III
1990-

MECKLENBURG GENERAL

Rowan Baptist Association Ushers Ministry Office of the President

Mr. Joseph T. Clyburn, Sr.

May 24, 2002

Dear Usher's Election Committee:

I am seeking the Office of President for the Usher's Convention of the General Baptist State Convention. My history with the Ushers has spanned over thirty-five years. I served as an Usher, President and held several other positions in the Ushers Ministry at The First Baptist Church in Statesville, NC where Dr. J. C. Harris is pastor. When I was elected president of the Rowan Baptist Association Ushers Ministry, I implemented many programs to bring the ushers closer together in our Association. Under my leadership, The Rowan Ushers Ministry has had three successful honor's banquet to honor Ushers with twenty-five years or more of service. We have initiated workshop with the various districts in the

Rowan on a monthly basis. These workshops gave our Ushers good advice and help in many areas including, for Techniques in Ushering, Demonstration, The Usher as A Christian Stewart, Usher's At Work, The Proper Attire, Hints on Working With People, Working With Youth Usher's and various other topics.

I thank God for the opportunity to help the Ushers across the entire state of North Carolina through our association through prayer, fellowship and a new direction. I look forward continuing the vision God has placed in me for service to my fellowman through the church, our community, the Rowan Association and the GBSC, Inc.

As we usher in a new season, it is my desire that we help all ushers rededicate themselves to being the best that God would have them be through service, time, prayers, and continued support of our churches, Associations and The General Baptist Convention can attend the State Ushers Convention, Raleigh, NC. If you want to support my candidacy I can be reached at 704-873.1732.

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION USHERS AUXILIARY

President of MGBA 1991-1998

Vice President of MGBS 1987-1990

Chairman of Deceased Usher Ceremony Committee 1991-

Budget Chairperson 1978-1982

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHARLOTTE

President of the Usher Ministry 1978-1984

President of the Usher Ministry 1987-1990

Vice President of the Usher Ministry 1977

Forest M. Eaves, Jr., joined Friendship Missionary Baptist Church (Charlotte, NC) in 1973 under the leadership of Dr. Coleman Kerry Jr. and became a member of the Usher Ministry that same year. His current pastor, Dr. Clifford A. Jones Sr., has been very inspirational to him and supportive of his spiritual growth and development. In 1973, he married Hattie M. Tate of Lowesville, NC. Mr. Eaves is also active in his community and is a member of the Wesley Heights Community Association.

We prayerfully solicit your vote for Forest M. Eaves Jr. as President of the Ushers Convention.

Grace and peace be unto you. Brother Forest M. Eaves has been an extremely loyal supporter of the ushers for well over 25 years. He is faithful in

THE 2002 GBSC, Inc. ANNUAL ELECTION

The 2002 GBSC, Inc. Annual Election will be held, **October 30, 2002, in Fayetteville, NC. Messengers will be certified throughout the week, from October 28, 2002 until, 12 noon, October 30, 2002.**

THOSE PERSONS WHO SEEK TO SERVE AS OFFICERS OF THE GBSC, Inc., AND DESIRE TO BECOME A CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE MUST ANNOUNCE THEIR CANDIDACY IN THE BAPTIST INFORMER AT LEAST THREE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE ELECTION (SEE GBSC CONSTITUTION Article V.)

ALL CANDIDATES SHOULD SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN July 30, 2002, SO THAT BALLOTS CAN BE PREPARED.

CANDIDATES SHOULD SEND THEIR LETTERS OF INTENTION TO:

**Reverend F. O. Bass
GBSC, Inc. Nominating
Committee
716 Leonard Avenue
High Point, NC 27260
336-882-9216**

his church as former president of the ushers at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, as well as on the associational and district levels.

Forest Eaves Continues on page 27

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Forest Eaves Cont. from page 26

Brother Eaves is a Christian gentleman who loves the Lord Jesus Christ and the Christian church. Without any reservations I support his candidacy for the president of the GBSC Ushers along with his church family and community. General Baptist will be blessed through the service of Brother Forest M. Eaves.

Clifford A. Jones, Sr., Pastor
Former President of GBSC

Avery continued from page 8

communities.

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD! General Baptists, we are the light of the world. Everything we do has but one purpose: to **GLORIFY GOD & EDIFY OTHERS**. We are a faith community that is powered by the Holy Spirit. As such, we are challenged by our Lord to grow UPWARD, INWARD, and OUTWARD. In responding to Jesus' proclamation of our illuminating power,

Avery continues on page 28



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MODERATOR OF MODERATORS NEWS

"NEPOTISM IN THE CHURCH"



By Reverend
James W. Smith,
JD
(pictured left)
Moderator of
Moderators

Reverend James W. Smith, JD

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

Just as I was wondering what to write for this article, I was confronted an interesting issue relating to the church. It is the issue of nepotism. First, let's share the definition that Webster's Dictionary gives for "nepotism" Webster says, "It is favoritism to a relative (as by giving an appointive job) on the basis of relationship. Well, I may ask the question, "what's wrong with that in the church?" My first inclination is thing. What's wrong with close relatives serving in positions in the church? Most people would love to know that their family members are Christians and are serving various capacities within the church that they pastor. I personally have many friends who have churches where their spouses, children

and other members of their family are personally involved in the affairs of the church. So, this article is not an indictment of family members holding positions and being involved in the affairs of the church.

However, I am learning that conflict within the church stems not only from what is real but what is apparent. Consider this scenario if you will. An aging Pastor appoints his daughter or son who is an Associate Minister as treasurer. He appoints his or son who is an associate minister as Financial Secretary. He appoints the spouse of his children who also happen to be ministers as chairpersons of Deacons. You may ask how can this be done since the power to elect the officers of the church rest with the membership. My experience has shown me that ministers who have pastored their churches for years and have gained the confidence and respect of the church do almost anything. And here lies the problem. Members who have been sleeping, at some point wake up and then realize that things are not being done properly and questions begin to arise.

Well in matters where I have been asked to give some advice, members are feeling that the Pastor is trying to pick his successor who happens to be a faithful member. Is this nepotism? You answer the question.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

Rev. James W. Smith, JD
146 Presidents Drive
Durham, NC 27704
(919) 479-0501
Email: jsmith9450@aol.com

Dr. Joshua J. Haire, Jr.
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Fayetteville, NC 28305
(910) 323-1508
Rev. W. J. Cox
107 Gray Street
Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 751-9899

Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.
603 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2338
800-639-4272

Arery continued from page 27

we must embrace the call to become witnesses in action {Matthew 25:31-40}.

The opportunity is available for us to shine. The Central Children's Home in Oxford, N.C. is waiting to be illumined by God's light that shines in us. Shine today through your gifts of time, talent, treasure, and the temple (your presence/visits). Shine today — turn on your Arery continues above

Arery continued from below

light by giving Mr. Michael Alston (Executive Director) a call and let him know that you are ready to shine! Let him share with you how your church, your association, your community, etc. can become a light for the Home. Shine today by contacting me — I will be glad to share with you through mail, e-mail, telephone, or in person how blessings will flow abundantly through your illumination upon the Home.

Paige Highlight cont. from page 26

whole person and not just a portion of the person. Another reason the experiences has been very rewarding is because we have raised those 4 children to become to production citizens.

EH: Do you feel the GBSC can play a beneficial role in identifying singles and couples to become adoptive or foster care parents?

GA: My cup runneth over with joy that the GBSC continues to take the initiative to see the need of getting involved in ministering to families in adoption and foster care because this is a apart of what the will of God when Jesus talk about when I was a stranger these chil-

Paige Highlight cont. on page 29



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Paige Highlight Cont. from page 25

children are strangers to every sense of the word. They are strangers to their own biological families. They need homes. They need love. They need nurturing. They need a sense of direction. So I am glad that the GBSC is serving in this capacity. I am elated that I have been chosen to serve in the capacity.

EH: Being the chairman of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Committee, what initiatives do you want to establish?

GA: The initiatives that I thought of establishing first of all will be with the moderators of the associations and then with pastors to promote the ideology of adoption and foster care. Secondly, to recruit families to become adoptive and foster care parents. I see doing that through the moderators, heads of other religious bodies, whether if they are Baptist or not, to promote our program as well.

EH: How can the ministry get churches actively involved of having an adoption and foster care ministry?

GA: It has to start with the vision of the pastor. It must begin with the moderator and establish contacts with pastors to have them identify families in their church with the total message that is required for people interested in adoption and foster care.

EH: What goals do you aspire to accomplish by being appointed chairman?

GA: It is a viable ministry of the QBSC. I have hopes of reaching the goal of providing a home for every child who is eligible for adoption and foster care. Also, find individuals who are interested in respite care for foster care parents.

EH: Do you have any challenges for GBSC in regards to adoption and foster care?

GA: I challenge the GBSC churches first of all to be willing to contribute whatever amount of money they can to the GBSC for the adoption and foster care ministry. It does not matter what amount it is. Also, I would like for every church to assign an auxiliary to assume this as a project to recruit families or friends to make this a reality because our desire is to travel through out the state to meet with many pastors as possible to promote our ministry.

EH: How can the ministry leave a lasting impression for Pastors to understand the seriousness of adoption and foster care back to their churches?

GA: A lasting type of impression that we will seek to leave is to possibly bring the children adopted by GBSC who would become adults and have them presented along with the moderators and pastors of those families. This will show the fruits of our labor of the adoption and foster care ministry.

EH: Why do you feel African-Americans do not readily become adoptive or foster care parents?

GA: Looking back at our history there was a time if a child was homeless a family or community would not wait on the Department of Social Services they would take responsibility of raising that child. Today because of the number of restrictions, laws, and problems that have occurred in our society people are more reluctant to become adoptive or foster care parents. As a result African American families having to come through the civil rights movement of struggling trying to stay abreast with this vastly changing society and the focus is not as much on family today as it is on survival. There is a need for us to lift this ideology of adopting and fostering and promote it so African Americans can see the reality in that being a part of their everyday commitment as well as survival being a part of their everyday commitment.

Pastor Ph.D. cont. from page 29

Married to the former Linda Dianna Swann of Laurinburg, Jenkins has taught high school English in South Carolina and in North Carolina and college English at UNCC and at Winston-Salem State University. He has also served two previous charges—First Baptist, Orrum, and Saint Luke Missionary Baptist, Hasty.

A native of Weldon, Jenkins currently resides in Winston-Salem and is the son of the late Percy Dee and Maxine Wilkins Jenkins. Shiloh Baptist Church held a

Take Care Continued from page 20

for the faith community to actively become a change agent for African-American children in need of permanent homes. We were and continue to be concerned that over 50% of the children in foster care are African American in North Carolina. While the concept of the faith community involved with the placement of children did not originate with us, our partnership with the State Division of Social Services and the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. did evolve under our direction.

We have often been asked, Why did you begin your partnership with the Baptist? The answer was simple. Dr. Paige and I are Baptist ministers and Amelia is married to a Baptist minister, Reverend Charles Whittenburg. In other words we are part of The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. family. The first place to ask for help is always within the family. Under the auspice of Dr. Clinton Jones and Dr. Archie Logan a partnership was established, later with the election and under the leadership of Dr. John D. Fuller, the project has continued to thrive.

The needs of the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry are much larger than the late Dr. Joseph Paige and myself. This ministry must continue and with the blessings of God it will not stop with our departure. One of my greatest desires is that all children in foster care receive love, encouragement and recognition of their self-worth as children of the living God. I pray that these children and families receive bountiful support from their local churches. It is yet to be determined what our children will become but with the support of the entire faith community we will demonstrate the old African Proverb, *It Takes a Village to Raise a Child*. All of us working in partnership will make a difference in the lives of so many children.

I close this farewell letter with a reading entitled, Have mercy!

dinner reception for the Reverend Dr. Donald Ray Jenkins on Sunday, May 26th and presented him with several gifts.

Life does whatever is necessary to mold us into shape and prepare us for greatness. It does not always look and feel this way. Instead, what we experience in life seems difficult, painful, and unnecessary. Just for a moment, think of the stones, which were used to build the pyramids and the gems, which fashion the Crown Jewels. Imagine how the stones were dug from the quarry and then hammered and chiseled into shape. Realize that each stone or gem had to be perfectly shaped before it could be set in its appropriate place. Recognize that once the pyramids were built and jewels cast into the Crown, they have never been disturbed, nor have they shifted, fallen, or crumbled.

Somehow life teaches us to understand that God has a perfect plan for us: according to that plan, we must be molded and shaped prior to being cast into the perfect place. When we truly recognize that there is a master plan, we can welcome any tool that comes to prepare us to behold our perfect place. When we are shaped and molded by life according to God's perfect plan, the world is amazed and blessed by our beauty, and longevity.

*Afterward By Earl Horton,
GBSC Adoption and Foster Care
Director of Public Relations*

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry would like to bid farewell to the Reverend Gwen Horton. She was instrumental of recognizing the need of the GBSC to lead the recruitment efforts to get the faith communities actively involved of placing African American children into permanent homes. She provided adoption and foster care training, information, participation in state recruitment projects, and the opportunity to allow us to present our ministry nationally at the NACAC conference. This ministry has certainly made huge strides of identifying African American singles and couples in the faith communities to adopt or foster a child. The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry will continue its outreach through Bridges Incorporated, the recruitment arm of the Convention.

Classified

(PLEASE CONTACT CHURCHES FOR SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS SOME REQUIRE 3 OR MORE YEARS PASTORAL EXPERIENCE, SEMINARY TRAINING, MISSIONARY BAPTIST ORDINATION, MUSICAL SKILLS)

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Mayor B. Credle, Deacon Chairman
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5972 NC Highway 304
Bayboro, NC 28515

OLIVE BRANCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:

The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chairperson
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

SAVANNAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Fayetteville, NC: currently accepting letters of interest and resumes for the position of Senior Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

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The Pulpit Committee
ATTN: Sister Ernestine Tucker
Savannah Missionary Baptist Church
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Fayetteville, NC 28310

PASTOR: OAKLEY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Clayton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume

2. Personal references

Send information to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson
PO Box 2435
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MOUNT CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for an ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

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Send information to:

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FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH, Greenevers, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:

Deacon Fernald Rawles, Jr.
920 Pasture Branch Road
Rose Hill, NC 28458

MOUNT PLEASANT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Harrellsville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor. The church is located in Hertford County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A Resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. Two personal references (no family references)

Send information to:

Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Pastoral Search Committee
ATTN: Deacon Eugene White
815 Swains Mill Road
Harrellsville, NC 27942

CHINQUAPIN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Mocksville, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. The church is a small rural congregation. Interested applicants should provide a Resume.

Send information to:

Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church
Pastoral Search Committee
Mr. Richard Moore, Chairman
4462 NC Hwy, 801 North
Mocksville, NC 27028
336-998-3362

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should

provide the following:

A Resume

Send information to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Pastoral Search Committee
Route 2, Box 128
Norlina, NC 27563

GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Oakboro, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. The church is located in Stanley County, 45 minutes east of Charlotte. We are affiliated with the Zion Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide a resume:

Send information to:

Deacon James Ashcraft
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 644
Oakboro, NC 28129

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Thomasville, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide a resume. Send information to:

Tanya M. Autry, Chairperson
Pastoral Search Committee
First Missionary Baptist Church
103 Church Street
Thomasville, NC 27360

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST Church, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are located in Warren County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:

Mrs. Lucy E. Branch
PO Box 52
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EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, Newburgh, NY: currently accepting applications for Senior Pastor with strong Baptist roots. The Committee will provide each candidate with an application packet.

Send request to:

Ebenezer Baptist Church
ATTN: Deacon Milton Buxton/Confidential
PO Box 248
Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

MICHENER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH, Smithfield, NC: membership approximately 75, is currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary

Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. At least three no more than five personal references

Send information to:

Mitchener Memorial Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee, c/o Deacon
Nathaniel L. Sanders, Jr.
308 Snead Drive
Clayton, NC 27520

SHADY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, East Spencer, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. At least four references: (2) business (2) personal
3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:

Shady Grove Baptist Church
ATTN: Clarence A. Jones, Chairperson
PO Box 447
East Spencer, NC 28039

FOSTER MEMORIAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Rocky Mount, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:

Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church
The Pulpit Committee
C/o Mr. Hiawatha Knight
PO Box 6317
Rocky Mount, NC 27802-6317

MOUNT CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Wilmington, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume or Letter of Interest
2. At least five references: (Two can be ministers)
3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
ATTN: Rena Lennon
PO Box 1970
Wilmington, NC 28420

CHURCH: of Tarboro, North Carolina 27886 seeking a pastor.

- He must be experienced
- Well seasoned
- He must believe in the word of god
- He must live by the word of god
- Willing to teach Sunday school and bible

Classified

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Kittrell, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots.. Interested applicants should provide a resume with cover letter of interest

Send information to:
Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 175
Kittrell, NC 7544-0175
252-492-0567

EASTERN STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Tarboro, North Carolina 27886 seeking a pastor,

- He must be experienced
- Well seasoned
- He must believe in the word of god
- He must live by the word of god
- Willing to teach Sunday school and bible study class

• Must be between the age of 25-55

Please submit Resume to:

Pulpit Committee
Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 1677
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886

CHURCH MUSICIANS

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-tilled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano. Keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as, well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship.

THE CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GIBSON, N.C. seeking a person to serve as Church Musician. Qualifications: Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at this address.

Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church
14600 Railroad St.
Gibson, NC 28343

THE CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH in Gatonia, NC currently seeks a Minister of Music. Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to:

Center Baptist Church. Attention:
Personnel Committee.
POB 550064
Gastonia, NC. 28055
or fax cover letter and resume to:
Personnel Committee at: 704-824-7683.

CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED:
Knowledge of music and the ability to play by ear is appreciated. Presently, morning worship service is held every fourth (4th) Sunday, but we are considering an additional Sunday for services. Must be able to play for youth choir and adult choir. Church is located in Warren County, North Carolina. For further information, please call:
(252) 257-0221.

EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH seeks Full-time Christian Minister of Music. Loyal and (Committed to Gods program.) Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor, and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:
Attention:
Trustees Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913.N. Highland Street
Gastonia, NC 25052

EVANS GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Wake Forest seeks musician. 1.) The duties include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship, 2.) Playing during Sunday morning worship service, 3.) Rehearsing with various choirs one night per week, 4.) And accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:
Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church
12700 Creedmoor Road
Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587
(919) 870-8874

THE FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH accepting resumes for a Church Musician. For Specific Qualifications: send inquiry to the address listed below.
Salary negotiable:
715 West Willis Ave.
High Point, NC 27260

GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: seeks ministrer of music. Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday. Prepare Choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship. Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times. Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church functions. Direct congregation in congregational hymns. Must be able to play the ear as well as read music

To Apply call:
(704) 532-6813 or E-mail to
GalileeNC@aol.com
Galille Missionary Baptist
P.O. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

THE PENN AVENUE MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH of Lewiston: seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian, who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano
- *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music
- *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to:

Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214,
Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849
Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

THE PENN AVENUE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Oxford. NC. currently seeking a Minister of Music
Specific Qualifications:
*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable
Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 am with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 am. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

THE ST. PAUL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH seeks a person to serve as church musician

Salary negotiable
St. Paul missionary baptist church is a spirit Filled, Christian church that worships on the 2nd , 3rd , 4th and 5th Sundays. Services begin at 11a.m.

Please submit your resume to:

Thomas j. Gibson, choir president at the address listed below

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 3525
Pinehurst, North Carolina 28374
Rev. Robert L. Taylor, Pastor
(910)-215-9817

Or leave a message at (910)-295-74 13


THE SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are excepting resumes from candidates with the appropriate qualifications. For additional information please send inquiry or resume to:

Spring Green Missionary Baptist Church
PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589
Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
Minister of Music or organist needed:
Please send resume to:
Union Baptist Church
110 Lincoln Ave.
Lexington, NC 27292

Attn: Rev. Darrell L. Thomas
Or call 336-243-1648 and leave your name and number.




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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER LOGAN APPEALS FOR VAN

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina needs a VAN. If you, your Church or Association has a van you are willing to donate to the "WORK." Please contact: Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338, 919-821-7466; 800-639-4272; alogan@gbsc.org



Baptist Informer

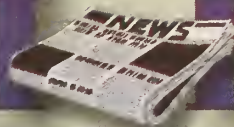
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Baptist Informer



Volume 37 Number 4

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Vol. of 500 000 North Carolina Baptists

August 2002

NC BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION and GBSC, INC. BUILD HISTORY

By Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The NC Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., are building history. For the past year the Baptist Laymen of North Carolina and the GBSC Laymen League have been planning to build homes for Eastern North Carolina Hurricane Survivors.

On July 10, 2002 the project became a reality. Pictured are members of both Conventions on July 20, 2002 when the homes were framed-in. In ten days two homes were build from the ground up.

Dr. James Royston, Executive Director of the NCBSC; Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President of the GBSC; Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary, GBSC, and Dr. Thurman B. Everett, GBSC Housing Consultant/Chairman have coordinated the project. Also the NCBSC Men and GBSC Laymen's League have been on sight each day. GBSC Laymen President Jarvis Morgan; GBSC Field Coordinator, Mr. Romas Hales and Reverend James Richardson, NCBSC have assisted in scheduling, coordination and planning for the project. We are grateful for all the volunteers and persons who have made this project a success. The Town of Princeville has help us: Mayor Delia Perkins, Town Manager Bobby Hopkins; Housing Coordinator, Emma Davis; Town Zoning Manager, Samuel Knight and the Town Council have been so helpful.



Joint Session Volunteers Help Build Homes in Princeville, NC.

The two Conventions joined in a "joint session" May 8, 2002, at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC. Dr. John Mendez, Pastor and announced the start of the new project. The two largest Baptist Conventions in the State are building "Homes For Survivors" together. Following the 1999 Hurricane Floyd disaster both Conventions assisted survivors with financial assistance; materials for survival, home repairs and new housing construction. The two Conventions have entered into a new project in Eastern North Carolina to rebuild homes devastated by Hurricane Floyd. The "Joint

Recovery Project" will include an intense evangelism outreach and programs to improve race relations in the State/Nation/World. Dr. Everett, said: "... its more than hitting nails we want to identify those needing salvation.

Laymen of both Conventions; other volunteers; and, companionate contractors are building homes in Phoenix Village, A Princeville, NC, sub-division owned by the GBSC, Inc., to make affordable housing a reality in the lives of the "survivors" and low/moderate income families. For the first time in history the two conventions have joined with the

Town of Princeville, the NC Community Development initiative of North Carolina, NC. This project is historic because faith-based organizations are living the creeds of their faith.

The leadership of both Conventions has taken bold stands for Kingdom Building, with this work, we have done something that has never been attempted or done before in Baptist Life: we want to reach unsaved persons; improve race relations; and make a difference in the lives of persons who survived the most devastating flood in the last 500 years in this State."

Not only are the two conventions building homes but also they are building lives of the lost and changing lives of members of both Conventions. President Fuller went on to say: "If we cannot live together down here, how can we expect to dwell in heaven together? It is a partnership from God" The POWER of God in Christ can break down walls of separation and culture! Daily volunteers work together on the site. Fellowship at lunch time at First Baptist Church, Tarboro, NC on main street. The NCBSC and the GBSC encourage other organizations of faith to join us in this witness of Kingdom Building and Evangelism. Out goal is to

History Continues on page 7

**WE NEED YOU! COME TO
PRINCEVILLE, NC! THE
PROJECT IS ONGOING
MONDAY - SATURDAY EACH
WEEK UNTIL COMPLETED.**

CELEBRATING 135 YEARS: 1867 - 2002

PRESIDENT'S NEWS

"A Word, to a Morally Errant Nation"

by

Reverend Dennis Leach BS. M. Div.,

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? (KJV Micah 6:7, 8).

At the outset of this article, I had thought initially to go in a completely different direction focusing on the never-ending task of theology for those who occupy the pulpit, and the pew. The former President of (ITC) The Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia Dr. Robert Franklin: frequently used the term public theologian, which I believe includes all of God's children engaged in the search for the expressions of God in the midst of the human predicament. The unpredictable and varying nature of the human experience and condition often demands believers, and especially those called to proclaim God's word to be diligent about the prophetic work in and with the Word of God. The Apostle Paul encouraged young pastor Timothy to be a student, engaged in study that he might gain God's approval and ultimately be able to rightly divide the Word of truth. It should be understood that truth is not merely to be

found in the study of God's Word, as it is in the doing of his Word, especially as it relates to the treatment of others. It is the truth of God, exemplified in the life and work of Jesus that liberates us to be better disciples and humane towards all people (John 8:31,32). Is it possible in his letter to Timothy that Paul could have been alluding to something other than the Bible, as we know it? For certainly there was no New Testament to be considered in a finalized form of 27 books that we now have.

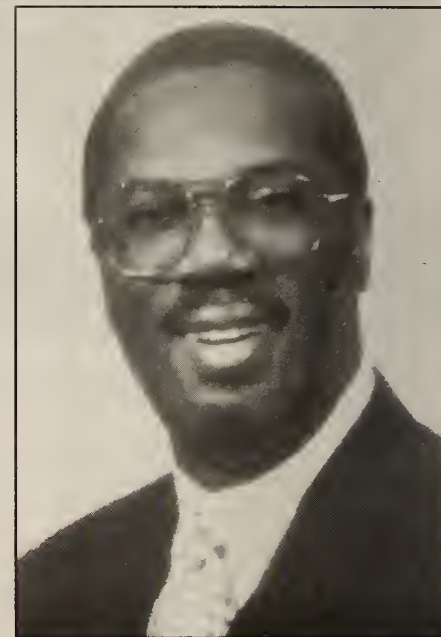
Although, I agree that as the church we need basic beliefs that we all share for the sake of doctrinal unity and conformity, I do not believe that the application and interpretation of scripture should be limited to a cleric few. I think this has been the approach of many Black churches especially coming out of slavery, when some historians suggest that the clergy may have been the only academically trained persons in the community. I often tell people that when I went to the seminary I arrived with my mother's theology, and when I left it was still intact. Although I was open to the academic process, and changed by it my mother's theology survived because it was birthed and tested in the midst of some of the harshest conditions urban and rural. Prior to going I had heard statements like: "when you go you better take the Lord with you, because you may not find him there." But, my mother's theology

informed me that wherever I was, God was there, even in the seminary.

Whether, or not you fit into the category of a public or private theologian all of us must wrestle with the implications of God's revelation biblically in relationship to the world we know. For African Americans this is deeply rooted in the religious mythology of our African ancestors. God was seen, and sought in the midst of the human condition. And, according to Dr. John Mbiti, an Anglican priest and Canon Professor in his book:

Introduction to African Religion, God was not only seen as being everywhere, but also involved with the world God created. This included the lives of his highest created beings, men and women. That world can often be fraught with social inconsistencies, injustice, chaos, and calamities. And, in the midst of this God sends a prophetic word to those who curry favor from God as His children. Ceremonially they have dotted all the "I's" and crossed all the "T's" religiously. But pure religion goes beyond the boundaries of ceremonialism, and God using his standards weighs its worth.

Micah stands solidly with Amos, Hosea, and Isaiah as a fierce champion of pure worship of the Lord and social justice, and shares with them the word of judgment against God's own people. The Lord has a controversy with this people because they have forgotten the saving acts of old and what it means *to walk humbly with your God*. In a series of rhetorical questions the prophet sums up the legal, ethical, and covenantal requirements of religion. No matter how you slice religion; it means absolutely nothing if it does not equate to justice for all people. It is a morally weak willed religion that promotes injustice, racism, and hatred of others. For this reason I have a bone to pick with America. Recently the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals stirred up quite a fuss when it ruled that the line in the Pledge Allegiance to the flag that said: *one nation, under God*, was unconstitu-



Dr. Fuller

tional. I would later learn that the line had been added to the pledge in 1954. My first question was not why it was ruled unconstitutional by the court, but what does it really mean to be: *one nation, and under God*? Out of curiosity I rechecked the record book: *The Black Almanac, From Involuntary Servitude (1619-1860) to a Return to the Mainstream?* (1973-1976), by Alton Hornsby, Jr., Chairman of the History Department at Morehouse College. I only concerned myself with what transpired from 1954-1976 as it related to the treatment of African Americans in this country.

As you could imagine I'm still shaking my head, and I don't know what they mean by one nation under God! From the brutal killing of Emmet Till a fourteen year old Black, to the bombing of homes, and churches that killed four little Black angels attending Sunday school, to the lynching of Mack Parker, to the killing of Medgar Evers, to the killing of three civil rights workers in Philadelphia Mississippi, and this all happened between 1954-1964. Killings, vicious beatings, and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., continued the onslaught of injustices suffered by people of color in this, one nation under God. America has proven over and over again that it is capable of perverting justice, abandoning mercy, and walking arro-

Errant Nation continues on page 3...

The Baptist Informer

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Voice of 500,000 Baptists

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

MORE PRESIDENT'S NEWS

Errant Nation continued from page 2

gantly with God. As an American, I wished this country were the nation it claims to be. I wished discrimination, and racism were not a common part of America's historical and current social disposition. A review of the past and present continues to show the unwillingness of this nation to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with its God.

The word "theology" comes from the Greek *theologia*, *theos*, "God," and *logos*, "speech." It is understood as language or discourse about God. The Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms says: "that it can be a scientific, methodological attempt to understand God's divine revelation, and that it has classically been seen as 'faith seeking understanding.'" For that reason, theology is a never-ending task inherited by those summoned to proclaim the Gospel of God in Jesus Christ through the power of God's Spirit. And, prophecy seems to be part and parcel of the preachers' theological task, and sometimes a "homiletical" appendage. Prophecy, to speak on behalf of God is to communicate God's will for a situation. I recently heard a preacher say that there are no more prophets, and he offered as proof positive this statement: "all that God has to say has been said, and is written in the Bible."

From a biblical point of view prophecy can be twofold, general and specific. Micah's prophecy was general in that it was to the entire nation of Israel. Isaiah's prophecy to Hezekiah was specific in that it was personally to him, and it addressed

his own situation. There are many instances of general and specific prophecies recorded in the Bible. For me, the loss of the prophetic voice would mean that a death has occurred for the people of God. The death of God's message or voice for, or to his people in specific instances. When a man steals an election, God has nothing to say. When Enron, and Worldcom executives make out like fat rats, God has nothing to say. When a nation can't find an Eric Rudolph, but wants us to believe it can find an Osama Bin Laden by bombing an already devastated country, God has nothing to say. When a nation refuses to deal with the social injustices of its past, God has nothing to say. When politicians care more about the big money corporations provide than helping an aging population with affordable prescription drugs, God has nothing to say. And, that God has nothing to say to or for the present or future generations no matter what is going on. But the God talked about in the Bible, who makes his presence known outside of the Bible, is always speaking to the sorrows and sufferings of people everywhere. How shall they hear without a preacher? And, how shall they preach except they are sent? He that hath an ear to hear let them hear what the Spirit is saying to, and through the church.

The preacher, or prophet spoke with an ear to hear God's utterances, and an eye on the religious and social conditions of his people or nation. They engaged in the highest form of theology, a theology of divine relatedness. How we relate to God, and how we relate to each other.

Africans have been forced to engage in the theological task by the sheer weight of the human conditions placed upon them in this country. The late Dr. Howard Thurman, in his book: *Deep River and the Negro Spiritual Speaks of Life and Death*, wrote that as a young man it was his responsibility to read the Bible to his grandmother who had been a slave. He said that his grandmother would not want him to read anything written by the Apostle Paul other than first Corinthians chapter thirteen. When he got older he said he finally asked his grandmother why she did not like Paul's writings, and she said that as a slave, the master would preach to them from Paul's message, slaves be obedient to your master, and for that reason she did not like Paul. For the sake of the preservation of her own human spirit, she resisted the negative interpretation and application of God's Word for her own situation. There is a word from the Lord, and it speaks not only to yesterday,

but also to today, and tomorrow. Sometimes that word is in the Bible, other times its in the heart or spirit of one of God's children. And, like the words of Micah it cries out for justice, mercy, and humility. There is a word from the Lord. The songwriter said: troubles don't last always. Walk together children and don't you get weary, walk together children and don't you get weary. The voice that whispers, God hears it. The eyes that cry, God sees it. The heart that sinks, God feels it. God hears, God sees, God knows, and God cares!

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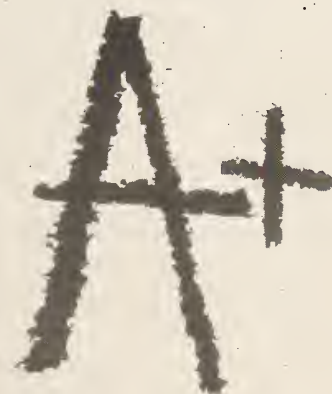
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WOMEN'S CONVENTION NEWS



Dr. Brodie

PRAISE GOD!

**By Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Brodie**

To God be the glory for the great things He continues to accomplish through our Annual Sessions. What a joyful time in the Lord did we have during our 118th Annual Session held in Winston-Salem. We are grateful to all of you who participated in some way or another (singing, praying, teaching, ushering, preaching, praising, thanking, encouraging, giving, discussing, speaking, reporting, doing anything else to the glory of God).

To Reverend F.O. Bass, Jr., Mt. Vernon, and other persons of High Point who helped to host this session, we express our gratitude.

The given progress financial report for the first ten months of the 2001-2002 fiscal year showed that approximately the amount of **\$495,844.94** has been received toward the missions budget of **\$801,357.00**. A balance of approximately **\$305,512.06** is needed to realize the funds for the objectives with whom we share this fiscal year, ending August 31, 2002.

Checks/money orders for the Woman's Convention should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention and sent to the Woman's Baptist State

Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

Our fiscal year ends August 31, 2002; let us churches send quotas and all Unions, Auxiliaries, Districts send other monies to the Executive Office of the Woman's Convention before this time. In order to help us meet the needed State Missions section of our 2001-2002 Budget, please give 25% to 50% more than your designated quota or intended gift for the cause of missions. State Missions include retreats, conferences, camp, workshops, books & supplies, office equipment, transportation, affiliations, Computer ministry, publications/printing, office operation, salaries & contractual services, seasonal assistance, scholarships, Executive & officers expenses, institutes, annual session and One Day Session, postage.

FAMILY MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Reverend Lacy Joyner and First Baptist Church, Granville Street, Oxford, NC will serve as hosts to the Annual Family Missions Conference on Saturday, September 21, 2002, beginning at 9:00A.M. Concurrent sessions are planned for Seniors, Young Adults and Youth. The sessions are Seniors-"Family To Families: Families Making A Difference", led by Reverend and Mrs. Robert Sanders; 2. Young Adults-"Family To Families: Families Making A Difference", led by Reverend & Mrs. James Eason 3. The Youth discussions for the different youth age levels will center on the same theme as the other sessions.

Families who complete the Family Study Guide during August (Family Month) and attend this Conference will receive certificates. The Christian Family Ministries Committee of the Woman's Convention distributed these guides at the Annual Session. All families across the State are invited to attend and share in this Conference, and to bring their Bibles and a sacrificial offering. Envelopes will be available for each family or family organizations' offering;

the offering will be credited to the contribution of the family's church to the Woman's Convention.

Directions To First Baptist Church, Oxford, NC

Coming From Rocky Mount:

Take US 64W
Then take the I-440 ramp
Merge onto I-440
Take the Exit 4 exit
Continue on ramp
Merge on Raleigh Chapel Hill Expy
Continue on I-40 W
Take the Exit 279 exit
Merge on NG-147 (Durham Freeway)
Take the Exit 16 exit
Continue on Ramp
Merge on US 15
Take the I-85 N. Exit
Merge on I-85 N
Take the Exit 204 exit
Turn Left on Linden Avenue
Then Left on Easy Street
Turn Right on Granville Street
The Church is located on Granville Street

Directions

Coming From Charlotte:

Take I-85 N
Continue on I-85 N
Take the Exit 204 exit
Turn Left on Linden Avenue
Turn Left on Easy Street
Turn right on Granville Street
The church is located on Granville Street

Directions

Coming From Henderson:

Take I-85 S
Take the Exit 204 exit
Continue on Ramp
Turn Right on Linden Avenue
Turn Left on Easy Street
Turn Right on Granville Street
The Church is located on Granville Street

Directions

Coming From Fayetteville:

Take I-95 N
Take the Exit 81 exit



Dr. Julius McDonald

Keep left around curve
Merge on I-40 W
Take the Exit 279 exit
Merge on NC-147
Take the Exit 16 Exit
Continue on Ramp
Merge on I-85 N Exit
Take Exit 204 exit
Turn Left on Linden Avenue
Turn Left on Easy Street
Turn Right on Granville Street
The Church is located on Granville Street

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“Transforming the Family Through Christian Communication”

By
Althea Taylor-Jones, Ph.D.

Excerpts From: The Keynote Address delivered for the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention's Leadership Training Conference Banquet at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly at Laurel Hill June 6, 2002.

To transform is to change; in fact to change markedly; to make a visible or an obvious change. Transformation involves changing the nature, the function, or the condition. Transformation also involves an alteration of qualities, characteristics, dispositions, and temperaments.

Then, when we begin to contemplate initiating the awesome task of influencing, or impacting an alteration of qualities, characteristics, dispositions or temperaments, the anticipated response can either result in exhilaration or exasperation.

Transformation is a vital link to deeply held values within family systems. Unfortunately, there is a breakdown in communication and we find that it is to the detriment of our family systems. Families are transformed as follows:

• Families are Transformed Through Church Connections

Spirituality of some form is a part of every human's basic needs. Then how will spirituality or any value get transmitted to the younger generations? Spirituality and Christian values are usually communicated through the elders within families. More than 70 percent of the church-going population is women. Women are considered as the backbone of the church, and are natural communicators.

• Families are Transformed Through Values

Values are reflected in all of our actions and all that we do and become is an outgrowth of a social value. Historically, African American value systems emphasized harmony and rhythm (soul and consciousness). Yet so many of us are living in the unconscious or subconscious

We are either ignoring the call for our Christian communication or living in a vacuum, as we have no reason to speak up and speak out. Unfortunately our children are suffering from our inadequacies and ignorance. . . We tend to forget that we are standing on the shoulders of our ancestors. Will our future generations have shoulders to stand on? Not if we don't provide them! We are allowing society to determine what our value systems will be... We must be the role models; therefore, we must take the lead and set the standards for our families, churches and communities, thereby effecting a transformation, a change.

• Families are Transformed Through Strong Kinship Bonds

Keeping the family together at whatever cost... Rearing other people's Children... We must return to corporate and/or community parenting. In these days and times, children are not being disciplined by their own parents, and certainly not by other adults... Three proven strategies that can be used to transform our families through Christian communication are:

1. Family Reunions; Family and Social Support Networks
2. Family Prayer
3. Family Discussions

What happened to our family gatherings, prayers and discussions? We don't even know our extended relatives in our bloodline (cousins, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, grandparents or grandchildren). We don't even know our siblings (sisters and brothers), and in many instances, our offspring as well. We don't thank God for anything anymore... and we certainly don't talk or discuss issues like we once did. Are we too busy to consult God?

• Flexibility in Family Roles Is a Means Whereby Transformation Can Occur

Present and future realities are certainly proponents of flexibility in family roles. No longer are we speaking of man's work and woman's work - men are house husbands - cooking, cleaning and caring for the children; women are engineers, technicians, mechanics, and the like. The major thrust should be to keep the family strong, as long as it is not illegal or immoral. Young couples or young singles

Leadership Training Conference, 2002

By Ms. Rocita Diggs

Once again, another Leadership Training Conference has come and gone. Each year, the Conference, simply known as "Camp" to frequent attendees, is held at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, in Laurel Hill, North Carolina. The objective of the Conference is "to equip Baptist women and men with qualities of Leadership in Christian missions through worships, teaching, fellowship and recreation."

Each year, emphasis is placed on the Woman's Convention. Music, Arts, and Crafts are also a normal part of the curriculum. "Keys to Spiritual Growth" was this year's subject of study. Our project this year was a trip to a local nursing home in Laurinburg, NC. We all assisted in preparing items for the trip. After fill-

aspiring to become couples are encouraged to work together on all things...

• Families are Transformed Through Internal Development

Scripture advises, "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath". Watch that no bitterness or resentment takes root in you for it causes deep trouble. Proverbs 15:1 tells us "A soft answer turns away wrath". In other words, we can kill a person with kindness. Furthermore, Ephesians 4:15 teaches us to speak the truth in love. To say what's bothering us, what's on our minds, but to maintain self-control through Christian communication. Should there be a conflict, regardless of the situation, Christian communication requires us to forgive and then forget. Forgiving means forgetting. It means wiping the slate clean; the person who does not forgive and forget will suffer physical, mental, and spiritual depression as well as oppression. Internal development can be stifled through bitterness and anger, yet it can be heightened or advanced through kindness, consideration, unity and compassion.

• Families are Transformed Through High Work Orientation

In Second Thessalonians 3:10 - Paul says, "that if any would not work, neither should he eat". As African American

ing bags with useful items for the tenants of this facility, the ladies from camp embarked on a journey, which proved to be more rewarding than anticipated. Hearts were touched and eyes were opened to the magnitude of the perceived small gesture. It was learned that many lived there had no families and/or no visitors. To receive something from the outside is rare, if not nonexistent.

For some of the employees of the care facility, for some of the tenants, and for some of the visiting campers, this became a grand old time of praise and thanksgiving. In fact, that's what the Leadership Training Conference is all about: teaching, learning, growing, sharing, praying, praising, worshipping... Just a Grand Old Time!

mothers, we must stop handicapping our male children by allowing them to become dependent on women (mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts, girlfriends, and wives). In many cases we teach our daughters to cook, clean, wash, etc., yet we fail to teach our sons how to care for not only themselves, but for others. By doing this, we render them useless and incapable of accepting the role as head of household for their families... We also render them helpless and hopeless, resulting in their inability to get and/or keep a decent job; thereby in many instances resorting to stealing, robbing and committing other crimes to survive. This of course, results in more African American males residing in jails and prisons than matriculating in institutions of higher education (colleges and universities). The larger society is very efficient and effective at keeping our African American males at a disadvantage, why should we assist them? A transformation is needed.

• Families are Transformed Through High Education and Achievement Orientation

We must be advocates for our youth by teaching them and modeling before them

Christian Communication cont. on page 14

VICE PRESIDENT'S NEWS



Dr. W. Parker, Jr.

News From The Foreign Field: The Lott Carey

We are preparing for our 105th Annual Session. Meet us in New Orleans, Louisiana on August 26th

– 28th, 2002. We look forward, with anticipation, to the 105th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, August 26th – 30th, 2002, in New Orleans, Louisiana, at St. Thomas Baptist Church where Dr. Benjamin Maxon is the Pastor and the Host Committee Chair. Some of the highlights of the Annual Session includes the Monday Evening Banquet and an Inspirational Musical, presented by the Host Committee. This year the Women's Auxiliary will host a Mission Prayer Breakfast on Monday morning and tickets are still available through the Lott Carey Office.

Our special guest will be our mission partners from India, Kenya, Uganda, Haiti, Guyana, Zimbabwe and Liberia. You will have the

Lott Carey Continues on page 7

Shaw University, and Shaw Divinity School News

by Reverend N. T. Davis

Grace and Peace be unto you from our Father and from His only begotten Son Jesus! May the Love of Jesus Christ the son shine in your heart, that we may be a better people, and make this world a better place for all to Live.

Shaw University is running smoothly as usual, things are looking up. By the time this news reach you, school will be ready to start. Please Pray for our youth, and young adults. They are faced with a challenge like never before. Pray for the University, and the Divinity School where the future Pastors are trained.

Let us not forget to put both the Divinity School and the University in our Church budget for the incoming year. To Dr. Talbert Shaw, we thank you for the years of service render to the University as president. We are Praying for you as you leave for retirement.

We Praise You for your Leadership, and Pray for the Faculty, and Staff of the University. The Lord is Good, and his Mercy endureth forever. O that men would Praise him for his wonderful works to the Children of men. In times like these, we still need a Savior. In times like these we



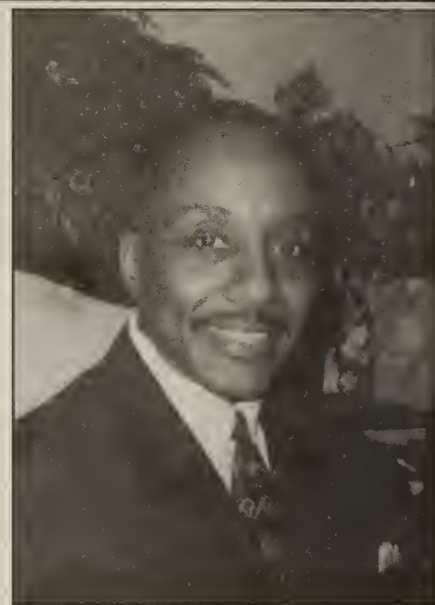
Rev. N.T. Davis

Christian Stewardship

by Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II M.Div.

To the holy and faithful sisters and brothers in Christ of the General Baptist State family: Grace and peace to you from Clod our head-lifter, soul-keeper, peace-provider, and eternal refuge. I thank God because I have "heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints..." (Colossians 1:4, MV). I thank God because in the midst of a world that often encourages and embraces a "look out for #1" attitude, the body of Christ continues to serve as a model of true stewardship. Christian stewardship is based upon the principle that God is the owner and we are managers of God's creation. There is no need to minimize this foundation. The psalmist clearly states "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it..." (Psalm 24:1). The body of Jesus Christ was founded upon the principle of loving and giving. God so loved the world that He gave His only son to the world and for the world.

Christian living is based upon loving and giving. One Old Testament prophet suggested that the failure to give a certain percentage of one's possessions for God's work is thievery and robbery - stealing from God what rightfully belongs to God (Malachi 3:8-10). Jesus Christ taught His followers to give, promising them rich spiritual blessings in return (Luke 6:38). The apostle Paul implored Christians to give to God's work, not reluctantly or



Rev. Nilous M. Avery, II M.Div.

under compulsion {a grudging spirit}, but with a cheerful and grateful heart (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Most individuals, particularly Christians, must be challenged to be/become better stewards {managers} of all that God has enabled them to possess. Can others see in us the desire and motivation to serve as the very presence of Christ here on earth? In other words:

- Our confession must be matched by our character;
- Our profession must be matched by our performance;
- Our shouting must be matched by our sharing;
- Our church service must be matched by

Stewardship continues on page 7

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MORE VICE PRESIDENT'S NEWS

Lott Carey Continued from page 6

opportunity to meet and fellowship with our mission partners and be informed about the work being done around the world. Our regular event during the Annual Session week is the Sunrise Prayer Service, Tuesday through Thursday, 5:30 am – 7:30 am. This is always an inspiring service of prayer, testimony, praise and fellowship. More than 1000 people normally gather, to transform a hotel ballroom into a sanctuary of worship.

We are excited about the Mission Education Classes and the excellent instructors for these classes. Our mission partners from around the world will visit classes and you will have the opportunity to dialogue with them again at the closing program. The classes will begin Tuesday, August 27th – Friday, August 30th from 7:30 am – 9:15 am. We are pleased to again provide a pre-convention, Saturday Mission Education Class for all classroom managers. Registration and books will be available beginning Saturday, August 24th, 2002.

Our Youth will have special classes and projects to inform and inspire them about global missions. The Women's Auxiliary will hold a reception to honor "The Women Of The Week" and the Laymen will provide a forum for discussion about global issues and our Christian response to the crisis that challenges world peace.

Plan to be in New Orleans, Louisiana for the 105th Annual Session. You will learn how your giving supports missions around the world. You will experience warm fellowship and worship. You will learn and grow in response to God's call, to extend our Christian witness to the ends of the earth. See You In New Orleans!

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE THIRD VICE PRESIDENT OF GBSC

By Reverend N. T. Davis

Effective July 9, 2002, I have retired as Pastor of the Bazzel Creek Missionary Baptist Church, Fuquay Varina, North Carolina. After 25 plus years of faithful service, I thank the people for allowing me the opportunity to be their servant for those years. God has blessed this congregation we have accomplished many great and wonderful things. The Church has grown Spiritually, financially, and numerically. The Lord Blessed us to build two (2), buildings. Both are debt free; To God be the Glory. As life goes on I am still in the Preaching Business for God. If you need a retired Minister to help with any Services in your morning worship, revivals, teaching/training or special services I am available. You may contact me at (919)362-7057 or call Baptist Headquarters 800-639-GBSC and the staff will contact me. "I Still Have the Yearning and the Burning."

Christian Stewardship continued from pg 6

our community service

- Our worship must be matched by our work & witness;
- Our living must be matched by our giving;
- Our forgiveness from God must be matched by our forgiveness of others;
- Our upreach must be matched by our outreach;
- Our claim of inner grace must be matched by our outward show of goodness toward others;
- Our blessings from God must be matched by our blessings shared with others!

Jesus drew a picture that we must never turn away from. He spoke of those who need to experience the helping and healing hands of Christian stewards who are committed to the cause of Christ (Matthew 25:35-36). I am confident that the General Baptist family is a collection of individuals, churches, and associations who are faithful stewards that shine as lights to help others catch glimpses of God's truth and love in

Christian Stewardship continues on pg 20



Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Tyler Lloyd

The Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Tyler Lloyd Is At Rest

By Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

The Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Tyler Lloyd was called from labor to rest earlier this year. He was a great leader, preacher/pastor and missionary. Upon graduating from seminary, Pastor Lloyd was called to pastor the Trinity Baptist Church in the Bronx, New York. Pastor Lloyd was a gifted leader whose vision for the church influenced the establishment of many new ministries. In a time of social and political upheaval, he transformed Trinity into a haven of stability, spirituality, and sanctuary. During his 42-year pastorate, the church experienced tremendous growth — a new edifice, increased membership, and an enduring impact in the lives of individuals and institutions in its surrounding community.

His involvement included membership in the United Missionary Baptist Association, Empire Baptist Missionary Convention, National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., and American Baptist Churches New York Metro & USA. He formerly served as the Assistant Dean for the Empire Baptist Missionary Congress of Christian Education, board member of American Baptist Churches USA, and President of Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. Most recently, Pastor Lloyd was the General Council member and Vice President of the Baptist World Alliance.

I met Pastor Lloyd many years ago. He was a friend of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and a mentor to young preachers. He encouraged and

lead by example and taught that a church without a mission is a church without a call. He preached in our state many times and always shared a humble spirit. We all will miss his spirit and presence.

For a life well lived and a legacy replete with love and service to humanity, Pastor Lloyd will be remembered by his beloved wife, Mrs. Portia Tyler-Lloyd; his adored children, Dr. Mark David and Rev. Naomi Elaine, other relatives, his Trinity family and many friends.

History Continued from page 1

reach and save souls while building "Homes for Survivors." The joy of this life is salvation. Come join us in Princeville, NC during the months of July and August. We need volunteers, skill workers and contractors. Donate 4-8 hours for this project. Bring your tools and Laymen! Make a difference in the

History continues on page 20

POTEAT SCHOLARS FROM GBSC of NC CHURCHES GRADUATE FROM WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

Wake Forest University's 2002 graduating class included the following William Louis Poteat Scholars who are members of General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina churches:

Candice Clitondra Mathis of Warsaw, First Baptist Church of Warsaw.

Ashley Nicole Hardy of Shallotte, Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church, Honors in Health and Exercise Science.

The William Louis Poteat Scholarship is named for Wake Forest's president from 1905 to 1927; the Poteat Scholarship recognizes students who are active members of churches affiliated with the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina.

Shekinah Glory Revival

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

9:00 pm Symphony to God!
An Evening of Fine Arts!

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

6:00 pm Shekinah Glory Parade
Open Air Prayer Meeting

TUESDAY, SEPT. 10

7:00 am Early Morning Prayer
11:30 am Devotional Service
12:00 noon Preaching at its Best
Rev. J.R. Samuels
5:00 pm Dinner
6:00 pm The Taught Word
Elder Angela Harris
7:00 pm Revival Praise Team
7:15 pm Worship Service
8:00 pm Preaching at its Best—
Rev. Claude Alexander

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11

7:00 am 911 Prayer Vigil
Corpening Plaza
11:30 am Devotional Service
12:00 noon Preaching at its Best—
Rev. J.R. Samuels
5:00 pm Dinner
6:00 pm The Taught Word—
Elder Angela Harris
7:00 pm Revival Praise Team
7:15 pm Worship Service
8:00 pm Preaching at its Best—
Dr. Charles Booth

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

7:00 am Early Morning Prayer
11:30 am Devotional Service
12:00 noon Preaching at its Best—
Rev. J.R. Samuels
1:00 pm A.H. McDaniel &
B.F. Daniels Pastor's &
Community Luncheon
5:00 pm Dinner
6:00 pm The Taught Word—
Elder Angela Harris
7:00 pm Revival Praise Team
7:15 pm Worship Service
8:00 pm Preaching at its Best—
Dr. Charles Booth

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

11:00 am
Fish Fryday—Fish Lunch

8:00 pm
Revival Gala Concert
Mississippi Mass Choir
Tickets—\$15

September 8—13, 2002
Union Baptist Church
Winston-Salem, North Carolina



Dr. Charles Booth
Mt. Olivet Baptist
Church
Columbus, Ohio
Keynote Preacher



Rev. Claude Alexander
University Park Baptist Church
Charlotte, NC
Opening Preacher



Dr. Sir Walter Mack, Jr.
Host Pastor

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Rev. J.R. Samuels
St. Stephen
Baptist Church
Winston-Salem,
North Carolina
Noon Day
Preacher



Elder Angela Harris
Cornerstone Baptist Church
Oxford, NC
Revival Lecturer

Shekinah Glory Gala Concert—Mississippi Mass Choir Friday, September 13 8:00 pm

Since its formation in 1988, the choir has won numerous honors and awards for its contributions to gospel music. "Serving God Through Song" is the motto and the mission of The Mississippi Mass Choir. The choir's purpose is to help establish the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world.



LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS



Mr. Romas Hales

The first verse of the one hundred and sixth psalms reads, "Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; For He is good; For His mercy endureth forever." We take this opportunity to give thanks to the Lord and to you for the support you have given the Laymen's League. Thank you for the monetary contributions you have made to the Laymen's League.

We are approaching the end of another fiscal year. The end of the General Baptist State Convention fiscal year is August 31, 2002. We have had some churches to organize their Laymen this year, and we hope this will continue. A lot of interest has been generated on behalf of the Laymen Movement. We are looking forward to greater heights and service during the next fiscal year. We are counting on your continued support and cooperation as we strive to keep the Laymen's Organization growing.

Our young men and young boys across the state need our help. Some need Mentors, guidance, and Christian role models to show them the way. A good Laymen's League organization in our churches and associations is a good place to provide the organizational structure to help reach the men and boys in our communities. Let us continue to encourage churches and associations across the state to organize a Laymen's League. Let us get

more men and boys involved in church work. Often we talk about reaching our financial goal, which is important, but our number one objective is to save souls for Christ. Join hands and march together in the effort to do the work the Lord would have us to do. We know what it takes to get the job done.

The Laymen's Men Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 14, 2002, at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, North Carolina. The regular session will start at 10:00am. Please start making plans to attend. We are hoping for a large number of men in attendance.

Finally, Laymen President Jarvis Morgan and I want to especially thank the Laymen and other volunteers who have worked with us to construct two homes in Phoenix Village, Princeville, NC. We have joined in partnership with the North Carolina Baptist Laymen to make affordable homes possible for Hurricane Floyd

Survivors. On July 10, 2002 we began work on the foundations for the homes, by July 20, 2002 they were framed. Over 100 young people and Laymen worked to build the homes. Volunteers have come from across the State to help us. **THANK YOU LAYMEN FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON THIS PROJECT!**

May God Continue to bless you as you continue to do His work.

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Rev. Jasper Reed

A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MOMENT

by Jasper P Reed, President Congress of Christian Education

Have you ever had your good intentions thwarted by inefficiencies of time management? Did you ever start to do a task and found yourself diverted to the extent that you failed to accomplish anything meaningful? Many times I have been frustrated by those seemingly uncontrollable circumstances that prevented me from doing the Lord's work. Why worry about time, don't we have enough other things to keep us busy? James [4:14-15] cautions us about how we should look at time. Surely we cannot predict what tomorrow will bring however, we can prayerfully submit ourselves to do God's will if He grants us a new day. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians [5:15-17] speaks to time as a resource subjected to the will of God. A wise use of the time that God has given us helps to establish a right relationship with Him. At the same time it enables us to become better stewards.

As Christians our primary objective should be to become wise stewards of all that God has created us to be individually. Continuously, all of our efforts

should be expended in ways that will make us better stewards. One of the things we can do is look at the characteristics that make for a strong meaningful relationship. Quality time stands out as one the most profound characteristics associated with a meaningful relationship. Just think of how much time Jesus spent in maintaining relationships with us. While we were yet in sin he died for us. His one and only motive was to carry out His father's will which was to make it possible for us to inherit everlasting life. Application is one of the best ways for us to keep time in perspective. We can start by making a list of how we spend each hour of one day and then expand this to one week. Beginning with that activity which requires most time, at the top, list all the others in descending order. After making the list located where, God in three persons, is found. If you spent the same amount of time with your partner what kind of a relationship would you have? Could you raise your children as young growing Christians with the amount of time you give to the Lord's work? We ought to think carefully about what we say when we are referring to the Lord. Often times we say, "Giving honor to God who is first in my life." Do we avoid that which is first? There are ways in which we can increase the amount of time we spend with the Lord. One way is to make room for Him in all aspects of your life. There are a number of Lay Ministries, if adopted, that will allow you to spend time with the Lord on your job, in school, at play or at home. The more space you make for Him in your life the more, time you will be able to spend with Him.

Do we spend enough time with Him to sustain a relationship? Thanks are to God for seeking us instead of us seeking Him. As Christian Education workers we should maximize our use of time in carrying out our mission to go and teach. When, with the proper use of time, we do an effective ministry of planting seed; there is JOY in Heaven in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

A Christian Education Exercise for OUR YOUTH and the Young at Heart—BIBLE QUIZ

LAUGHTER

1. Which couple laughed at the incredibility of God's promise to them?
Genesis 17:17; 18: 12-15
2. Which son brought laughter to his mother?
Genesis 21:6
3. Which king was laughed at when he invited people from all over Israel to celebrate the Passover?
II Chronicles 30:11
4. Who advised that laughter should change to mourning?
James 4:9
5. Who referred to himself as a laughing stock? **Job 12:4**
6. Who laughed at Nehemiah's attempt to rebuild Jerusalem's wall?
Nehemiah 2:20
7. Who told his friend that God would fill his mouth with laughter?
Job 8: 21
8. Who said laughter was mad?
Ecclesiastes 2:2
9. Who was laughed at when he said someone was not dead but only sleeping?
Matthew 9:25
10. Who was afraid that the towns people might laugh at him because of his relations with "a prostitute"?
Genesis 38:23

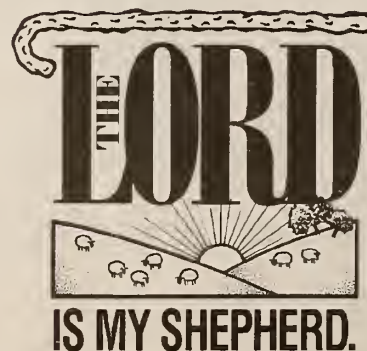


Portia Brandon, M. Div., Christian Education Coordinator

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Status of Our Health: “We Must Always Have Hope”

By Charolette H. Leach, M. S.

The July 2002 issue of Ebony Magazine recently came in the mail. As I scanned the front cover, I noticed at the bottom right corner the words “Annual Black Health & Fitness Section”. Before I began to read any article in detail, I perused the section to see what types of topics would be covered. The article included information on most of the major chronic diseases, with highlights on blood pressure, and the need to eat fruits and vegetables.

I must admit that I quickly became disheartened. Since this information is for the African American population, it focused on us, and how we compare with white America. For years I have heard the statistics of our health and how the numbers compare to our white counterparts. I’ve known for years that we as African Americans lead the way with regard to the prevalence of chronic diseases and health risk factors. But it is very dis-

concerting when you have the numbers smack you in the face all over again and when the grim reality is that the problem is getting worse and not better.

When grim news and disheartening information about your people, the race of people that is near and dear to your heart is presented so vividly, it can seem overwhelming. It did initially seem devastating and hopeless. But then, I was reminded of the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. Paul makes a valid point in the 8th Chapter of Romans, verses 24 and 25.

“For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for what we see not, then do we with patience wait for it”.

Yes, I hope for improved health for our people and pray that you hope with me. As we hope for what we do
Hope Continues on page 12

III John 2, “Beloved, I wish that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

The Church faces a tremendous challenge today. Many of our parishioners are experiencing a variety of chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, clogged arteries, etc. Unfortunately our fast moving society has caused us to totally surrender the care of our own bodies to a health system, which could be better stated as an illness system. I say an illness system because our current health system too often reacts to symptoms with synthetic medicines each having an array of side effects more damaging than the condition being treated. What happened to the old remedies of herbs and minerals that grandma used to give us?

Ezekiel 48:12 ...and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.” The Lord has brought me into fellowship with a company called Healing America and its mission is implied in its name

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Church Fax. No. (If applicable) _____	
GBSC Association _____	
Name of Health Ministry _____	
Chairperson or Leader(s) of Health Ministry _____	
Current Health Programs (Attach additional sheet if needed): _____	
Name of Program	Brief Description
What do you believe are the congregation’s five most significant health problems (Please list in order of importance)?	
1 _____	
2 _____	
3 _____	
4 _____	
5 _____	
Additional Comments: _____	
Name of person Completing Form _____	
Address: _____	
Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____	
E-mail Address: _____ Date Form Completed _____	

(Healing America). This company makes top quality herbs and alternative medicines. They also have made it possible for churches to be sponsored free and as well as use these wonder-

ful products as fundraisers. Healing America is also helping individuals with in our churches to become financially free through the best marketing

Wealth continues on page on page 12



Dr. Thomas L. Walker
Dr. Thomas L. Walker
Crusade for Health
Continues But Now I’m
Adding Wealth
by Thomas L. Walker



Hope continued from page 11

not see, we must patiently wait for it. We do not wait without doing anything. As we wait, we must take action. First, we must honestly examine ourselves to determine our individual health status. Next we must be determined to care for our health as best we can, based on what we learn about how to improve our health. Finally, we must encourage others to care for their health. We are called to give assistance to our brothers and sisters, to help them to be the best that they can be. This is extremely important for our family members. We can use our influence to help those we live with, those we are close to, and those who we come in contact with on a regular basis. We can encourage them to take care of their health, by exercising regularly and by improving their nutrition, as they look at us as examples. We can learn about appropriate ways to handle stress, use it and pass this information on to our loved ones.

Dr. Lucille C. Norville Perez, who is the President of the National Medical Association, presents the introduction of the "Annual Black Health & Fitness Section". She begins by stating that she would grade the state of health of the African-American community by giving a C-. Some of the statistics of the health of the African-American community as compared to White America, are as follows:

" We are 40% more likely to die of heart disease

" We are 80% more likely to die of stroke

" Cancer is more prevalent and more likely to be fatal for us

" We are 70% more likely to develop adult onset diabetes

Three reasons are stated for why we are doing so poorly with regard to our health:

1. We do not eat properly, eating too much of the wrong foods.

2. We do not get the proper amount of exercise or physical activity.

3. We do not receive regular medical exams.

In this introduction, it was stated that the National Medical Association

is working to help bring health care to people who need it. This will be beneficial to our overall health because health care may be provided to individuals who would otherwise not receive it. This will aid with a better quality of life. If we add this to the individual steps that we take to improve our health plus the steps that others take based on our encouragement, we will be able to see the results of our efforts in short order.

Yes, our hope is in what we currently do not see, and we will wait patiently for it. But we will not wait without doing what we can. As you consider your health, no matter what your current state is, be determined to plan and take steps to improve it. Do not go it alone, bring along your spouse, your children, or co-workers, and your friends. As we improve our health, it is all for God's Glory. Be Blessed!!

Wealth continued from page 11

program ever introduced. Participants are able to make money five ways including your own personal website, a lucrative compensation paid in advance for sponsoring others into the program and three other bonus and commission opportunities.

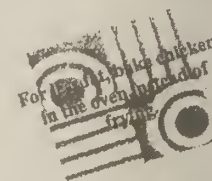
I am excited about the Healing America opportunity because it is a business with a mission and that is to bring health and prosperity to our people. Visit my website at www.eternal-gold.healingamerica.com or call me at 252-407-7664 or page me 24 hours at 252-450-1682.

I hope many pastors and church leaders will encourage your people to participate in this worthy program. If we work together on this, it can also be a great financial help to our unified program the General Baptist State Convention.



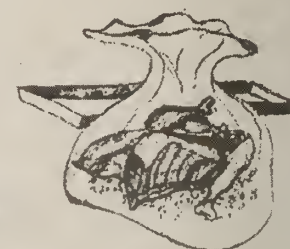
CRISPY OVEN-FRIED CHICKEN

1/2 cup	skim milk or buttermilk
1 tsp	poultry seasoning
1 cup	cornflakes, crumbled
1 1/2 Tbsps	onion powder
1 1/2 Tbsps	garlic powder
2 tsps	black pepper
2 tsps	dried hot pepper, crushed
1 tsp	ginger, ground
8 pieces	chicken, skinless (4 breasts, 4 drumsticks)
a few shakes	paprika
1 tsp	vegetable oil (use to grease baking pan)



1. Preheat oven to 350° F.
2. Add 1/2 teaspoon of poultry seasoning to milk.
3. Combine all other spices with cornflake crumbs and place in a plastic bag.
4. Wash chicken and pat dry. Dip chicken into milk, shake to remove excess, then quickly shake in bag with seasoning and crumbs.
5. Refrigerate for 1 hour.
6. Remove from refrigerator and sprinkle lightly with paprika for color.
7. Evenly space chicken on greased baking pan.
8. Cover with aluminum foil and bake 40 minutes. Remove foil and continue baking for an additional 30 to 40 minutes or until the meat can be easily pulled away from the bone with a fork. The drumsticks may require less baking time than the breasts. Crumbs will form a crispy "skin." (Do not turn chicken during baking.)

Makes 6 servings
Serving size: 1/2 breast or 2 small drumsticks
Calories 256
Fat 5 g
Saturated fat 1 g
Cholesterol 82 mg
Sodium 286 mg



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AUXILIARY NEWS

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL & SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman

GET READY TO ATTEND

2nd ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE!

Theme

"The Church's Mission In The Midst of Crime & Incarceration"

The time is now to begin preparation to attend the 2nd Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference September 27-28, 2002. This year's conference will be held at the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, NC. This complex is one of the largest correctional complexes in the country. This year's conference will provide expert training, dialogue with inmates, tours and worship services. These events will take place in the FCC Training Center and inside the institutions.

Important Note

Every conference attendee that wants to participate in events inside the institutions must be cleared through NCIC security checks by filling out a security check authorization form. This two-part form can be obtained from GBSC headquarters or by contacting the FCC Pastoral Care Department at 919 575-4541 ext.4300. The form can be filled out and faxed back to (919) 575-2011.

This year's conference will allow conference attendees to experience the impact of crime and incarceration by being in the midst of this crisis during the conference. This is an opportunity to see what the Lord is doing in the midst of crime and incarceration. Prayerfully, this will lead to greater spiritual understanding in responding and supporting this great work. GBSC pastors are encouraged to send a representative who will be leading your church's response to crime and incarceration.

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Saturday, September 28, 2002

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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2002

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CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE OF **\$200.00**

EACH CHURCH SHALL PAY **REGISTRATION FEE**

BASED ON POPULATION OF CHURCH - PLEASE SEE GBSC CONSTITUTION - ARTICLE X.

VOTING MESSENGERS ARE DETERMINED BY GBSC CONSTITUTION ARTICLE X.

EXAMPLE:

CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE **\$200.00**

CHURCH VOTING REGISTRATION FEE **35.00**

(BASED ON CHURCH POPULATION - ARTICLE X)

church fee of **\$35.00** entitles church to **3 voting messengers**

TOTAL CHURCH COST TO VOTE **235.00**

ALL VOTING MESSENGERS WILL RECEIVE A VOTING BADGE AND KIT

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF GBSC CONGRESS AND USHERS ELECTION FORMS TO GBSC HEADQUARTERS - JUNE 24, 2002

* All **non-voting** messengers shall pay \$10.00 registration fee.

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Christian Communication cont. from page 5
the following:

1. Reaching for the sky. We may only reach the top of the tallest tree, but aim for the sky. Tell them to do their best.
2. Getting all the education that one can get. It is when we think we know it all that we know the least.
3. Demonstrating lifelong learning. We are never too old to learn. When we feel that we are too old to learn, it's time to move on to another reality - *It's time to die.*

To transform the family through

Christian communication, we must become advocates for education and opponents of ignorance. We must become sound investors and money managers. And we must model honoring our elders and learning from their wisdom.

Christian communication sometimes involves working effectively without being seen or heard. Some Christian communication occurs in the shadows, background, or behind the scene. The work of transforming the family through

Christian Communication cont. on page 19

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Phyllis Coley
Publisher

A MODEL SCAM: TAKE A CLOSER LOOK BEFORE YOU SIGN UP WITH A MODELING AGENCY

By Attorney General Roy Cooper

While the thought of a career in modeling brings images of glamour, excitement and big paychecks, consumers who sign up with modeling agencies often end up poorer but wiser. Many modeling agencies prey on victims through a combination of flattery and pressure. These agencies make their money by promising high-paid jobs in high fashion to lure hopefuls into expensive make-up sessions and photo shoots. Many times these agencies seek out people who are good citizens and good Christians.

Here's how the agencies operate. Your teenage daughter or son hears an advertisement on their favorite radio station or sees one in the newspaper for fashion models. They beg you to let them attend a "screening" held by a modeling agency at a local hotel. The day after the screening, you receive a call saying s/he has been "selected" by the company you are urged to make another appointment to sign a contract for a photo shoot that will cost you \$600 or more.

Pressure sales tactics and your child's enthusiasm make it hard to say no. But before you say yes, consider these myths and facts about modeling:

Myth: Once you sign up with a modeling agency, the agency will help you find runway and print work that pays as much as \$150 per hour.

Fact: If the agency claims to have placed models in high paying jobs with specific companies, contact the companies to verify those claims. Also, be realistic about the number of modeling jobs that may actually be available in your town or city. The majority of the work these agencies can help you find will be "promotional work" such as handing out product samples at events. This work typically pays only a fraction of the hourly rates for real modeling jobs.

Myth: For the low price of \$400-\$600 the agency will arrange for a photo shoot with a professional photographer, make-up artist and hair stylist, to provide you with the "comp card" photos you will need to send to prospective employers.

Fact: While aspiring models do need "comp cards," these modeling agencies often charge two or three times what independent photographers and stylists charge.

Myth: The agency says that it is selective in choosing prospective models and that you have "the look" that they are seeking.

Fact: While it's flattering to think you have the potential to become a model, these agencies make money by signing up as many clients as possible, not by finding the next cover girl. If you are willing to sign a contract and write them a big check, they are usually willing to "select" you.

Myth: This is a now-or-never opportunity. If you don't sign a contract today, you might

miss your chance to become a famous model.
Fact: You should never sign a contract without reading it thoroughly. If you are pressured to sign a contract immediately, ask for a copy to take home and review. If you are told "now or never," walk away. Keep in mind that if you sign a contract at the agency's normal place of business, you may not have the right to a refund. If you sign a contract at a hotel or another location away from the agency's office you automatically have three days to cancel the contract and receive a full refund, provid-

ed you notify the company in writing with a letter that is postmarked before mid night of the third business day after the transaction.

Before you attend a screening offered by a modeling agency, call the Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's Office at (919) 716-6000 and your local Better Business Bureau to check the company.



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YOUTH CORNER

Men and Women of Faith

By Delores Griffey

Hebrews 11

What is faith? It is the confident assurance that God's Word is true, and what God promises to do, He will do. These are a few of the men and women who, in times past, had faith in God:

§ **Abel** - By faith Abel obeyed God and brought the sort of offering God was pleased with.

§ **Enoch** - Enoch trusted God too. And God protected Him from danger.

§ **Noah** - Noah trusted God enough to build an ark even though those around him didn't believe there would be a flood and made fun

of Noah and his family.

§ **Abraham** - Abraham trusted God. When God told Abraham to leave his home and go to a strange country Abraham obeyed.

§ **Sarah** - Sarah too had faith, and in spite of her old age, was able to give birth to a son. She knew God was able to do what He had promised. So from Abraham and Sarah grew a whole nation of God's people.

§ **Isaac** - By faith Abraham's son Isaac knew God would give future blessings to his two sons, Jacob and Esau.

§ **Jacob** - By faith Jacob blessed his grandsons, knowing that God would fulfill his promises to them.

§ **Joseph** - It was by faith that Joseph, as an old man knew that God would bring the people of Israel out of Egypt.

§ **Moses** - It was by faith that Moses when he became a man refused to be treated like the grandson of king, but choose to share the ill-treatment with God's people. Instead, Moses was looking forward to the reward God would give him and because he trusted God he wasn't afraid of the king's anger. Moses believed God would take care of His people by faith. Moses led the people out of Israel through the Red Sea.

§ **Rahab** - By faith Rahab did not die with the others in her city when they refused to obey God.

§ **JESUS** - our leader and instructor gave the greatest example of faith to us; He was willing to die a shameful death on the stake because of the joy He knew He would have afterwards. Jesus now sits on the right hand

side of His Father in a place of honor next to the very throne of God Himself. Whenever you get weary and become fainthearted, think of Jesus and His great patience and faith.

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THE MINISTER'S COUNCIL

TN 1994; ISBN # 0-8054-1144-5

Dr. Miller notes "Holding an audience without a rope is the all consuming art of every preacher in this current age of communication. There are seven all — important keys to this elusive art, and ignoring even one of them will leave a speaker frustrated by audience disinterest. Without these keys, the preacher will find that the sermon remains locked."

Several issues are addressed to include: How can you have an audience on your side before you even open your mouth? What can you do in the first three minutes of any presentation to guarantee your listeners will pay attention? What three common approaches should you avoid in order to make closing remarks more powerful?

For preachers and Christian speakers in the age of MTV and information superhighways, audiences have a simple message: "If you can't reach us quickly and convincingly, you might as well stay at home." The *Empowered Communicator* shows you how to reach out to an audience how to develop and deliver Christian messages that grab their attention, hold their interest, and inspire them to act.

Written in a conversational, non — technical style, this book is spiced with real — Life anecdotes recounting The trials and triumphs of preaching and reaching the Word, from riveting sermons to show — stopping slips of the tongue. It is also tightly organized and carefully researched, with references for further study after every chapter. For newly minted speakers and seasoned professionals alike, *The Empowered Communicator* explains seven keys to successful speaking in exacting detail and applying contemporary leadership strategies in a Christian context.

Anyone wanting listeners who are not only awake, but fulfilled and inspired, will find this book indispensable.

Ingenious yet basic, this book is full of the information needed to give any minister a

boost in his/her own sermon development. Keep this valuable resource under your arm as you get ready to grow.

Congratulations Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter!

Dear Reverend Holland-Trotter:

I am delighted to extend greetings and offer my sincere congratulations on being named the first African-American female to hold the office of President of the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Ministerial Council in its forty-five year history.

Your many contributions to the betterment of all citizens, and particularly women, are indeed commendable. In addition to helping women, you have also made history as a woman. In addition to your history-making installation as an officer in the Council, you have also served as the first woman to become an instructor at the Ordination Academy of the Union Baptist Association, and the second woman to preach there in one hundred twenty years. You also made history when you preached at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, the first woman to do so in one hundred forty-seven years. Your contributions to the church, and to the people of your community, have been outstanding. Your work breaks ground for women everywhere; it will resonate with man- and woman-kind for years to come.

Mrs. Easley joins me in extending congratulations at this special time in your life. May God continue to richly bless you, Shiloh Temple of Faith Missionary Baptist Church, and the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Ministerial Council.

With kindest regards, I remain



Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch, President

Greetings in the matchless name of our risen Christ. The prayers of the Ministers' Council are with each of you as you labor in the vineyard of the Master. It is our hope and prayer that God will enhance your ministries that we may reach more souls for Jesus Christ. The GBSC Ministers' Council has taken our charge from President Fuller to serve the ministers of this great convention. Our efforts have been put forth to provide resources to the clergy of this convention with the aim of providing assistance and support to servants of God.

This month's emphasis will continue to focus on the minister's personal library. One book that is highly recommended is:

The Empowered Communicator: 7 Keys to Unlocking an Audience

By Calvin Miller

{Broadman & Holman Publishers, Nashville,



Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter

NEWS



*North End Baptist
pastor celebrates
45th anniversary*

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Telegram photo / Tim Hami

Pictured above from left, Pearl Younis-Grayson, Sylvia Walker and the Rev. Elbert Lee, of the North Baptist Church, are shown with donated goods that are being sent to Liberia, Africa, as part of the Christian non-profit outreach program, HOLY-HOLY Inc. Community members donated all the items and money that are part of (the shipment. Food also makes up a large portion of the shipment that left Rocky Mount on Wednesday.)

"We are commissioned by God to go into

North End Baptist Church in Rocky Mount celebrated the 45th anniversary of its pastor in July 2002. The Rev. Dr. Elbert Lee's tenure with the church was honored. The Rev. Dr. Lilipiana Darensburg from the Shaw Divinity School was the guest speaker. Darensburg is an administrative assistant at the school.

We have been called to share, we have been called by God to care. World Mission Home and Aboard Inc. is calling on all churches, businesses and people of good will to join an effort to restore that wonderful country Monrovia, Liberia West Africa. They are in great need of clothing, food, medicine and medical assistance, financial assistance, school supplies, Hymn Books and Bibles, agricultural needs, transportation, Health Care and many other unmet needs. Please call



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CONTACT US TODAY

Christian Communication cont. from p 14

Christian communication is necessary, and should be done to advance God's kingdom, not ours.

When the family is strong, the church is strong. When the family is strong, the community and the nation will also be strong. Charity begins at home (within the family) and spreads abroad, to the church, community and nation... We have an awesome task to achieve. Let us be about our Father's business and transform our families through Christian communication by advocating and modeling:

- Church Connections and Spirituality
- Values and Standards
- Strong Kinship Bonds
- Flexibility in Family Roles
- Internal Development
- High Work Orientation and
- High Education and Achievement Orientation

MORE NEWS

THEY ANSWERED THE CALL For Nigeria, West Africa and Afghanistan



Pictured to the left from left to right; Representative Nurham Warwick of the NC House, Raleigh, NC; Rev. Moses Dr. Moses Neuman, Director of the World Care Ministry, Dallas, NC; Representative Dr. Larry Bell of the NC House, Raleigh, NC; Sherwood Allcox, Democratic Candidate for the Clerk of Court, Clinton, NC. Seated: Annie Matthews, President of The Lower Sampson County Missionary Union, Clinton, NC.

Rose Hill, Delway, NC - On May 18, 2002, the Lower Samson County Missionary Union, under the guidance and leadership of President Annie Matthews, answered the call of Mission on the field. We met at Host Church, Hayes Chapel Baptist, Pastor Rev. Alfred Holston. God equipped all of us with unique abilities in serving Him. Our motive was and is to glorify God and benefit others in Christ. Exodus 31 tells us that God gave certain people special skills to work in gold, in silver, in cutting jewels, and in all kinds of workmanship to help build the tabernacle. The Lower Sampson Union says to everyone, if you are a construction worker, well digger, a teacher, a trash hauler, a plumber, a doctor, a carpenter, a writer, a mechanic, a scientist, an assembly line worker, a secretary or any other kind of worker whose occupation contributes to the welfare of others, you have a God honoring job. In His sight it is an opportunity to serve Him in the places He has provided.

Our Union found a place through Rev. Dr. Moses Neuman of the World Care Ministry to help build wells in Africa so there could be clean drinking water. The Union has 12 churches. Ten of the churches pooled their monies and built three wells. Churches participating were

Garland first Baptist, Pastor Dr. Samuel McDonald Jr., Keathern Baptist Church, Pastor Rev. Harvey Robinson, Hayes Chapel Baptist Church, Pastor Rev. Alfred Holston. Andrews Baptist Church, Pastor Rev. Arthur Taylor, Mt. Pleasant, Rev. Tommy Jones, Roseville, Rev. Louie Boykin, Byrds Chapel, Rev. James Faison, III, Peters Tabernacle, Rev. James Grimes, Pilgrim Rest, Rev. Willic Randolph, and St. John, Pastor Rev. Franklin Faison. Two pastors were presented with stoles because their church built individual wells.

All pastors received a plaque from Sis. Matthews, President of the Union, and Dr. Moses Neuman, Director of the World Care Ministry. They each also received World Care certificates from Dr. Neuman. Our special guest, Representative Larry Bell of the NC House in Raleigh, passed out the plaques to pastors.

Boxes of religious materials were boxed up and sent to Africa by the Presidents of all church circles. President's supporters were Sis. Ozel Lynch, Garland First Baptist, Sis. Therese Herring, Hayes Chapel, Sis. Flora Faison, Mt. Pleasant, Sis. Mildred Fowler, Andrews Chapel, Sis. Lillie Williams, Byrds Chapel, Sis. Mary

Newkirk, St. John, Sis. Bertha Howard, Keathern, Sis. Sylvia Can, Roseville, Sis. Sharon Keith, Snow Hill, Sis. Macie Bannerman, Pilgrim Rest, Sis. Annie Robinson, Peters Tabernacle. There were approximately 30 boxes of Bibles, Missionary Helpers, Sunday School Quarterlies, pencils, concordances and other religious books and magazines. Representative Nurham Warwick of the NC House in Raleigh presented each President with a plaque from the President of the Union.

Then some ladies worked with the youth of the Union and raised finances to be sent to the White House in Washington, DC for the Afghanistan children. President George Bush asked each American boy and girl to participate. The money was mailed to the Afghanistan Children's Fund in Washington, DC. Rep. Nurham Warwick presented each circle President. He and the President signed each certificate.

The President of the Union was presented three plaques, two framed certificates, an African dress outfit and 12 large balloons - one representing each of her 12 churches, by Rep. Dr. Larry Bell, Rep. Nurham Warwick, Democratic Candidate for Clerk of Court, Mr. Sherwood Allcox, and Rev. Dr. Moses Director of the World Care Ministry. She was overwhelmed with joy and thanksgiving. All pastors, presidents, youth and out-of-town guests, along with the President, had their pictures taken on the church steps, by Mrs. Womble of Wendell, NC, a dear friend of Rep. Nurham Warwick. It was a high day for the Lord. Rev. Tommy Jones, pastor of Mt. Pleasant Church, brought the sermon. We were very humbled and proud to have given our time, talents, and finance for the upbuilding of God's Kingdom. A very big thank you goes to everyone that participated and worked hard for the Lord.

We give Thee but Thine own,

Whate'er the gift may be:

All that we have is thine alone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

President, Annie Matthews and the Lower Sampson Union, District VI Group I Neuman, NC.

History Continued from page 7
life of those who have hope in Jesus!

FOR INFORMATION about working on the project CONTACT:

Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer
General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
603 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2338
800-639-CBSC ** 919-821-7466 **
919-836-0061 fax
www.gbbsc.org ** alogan@gbbsc.org

Christian Stewardship cont. from p. 7 actions.

Shine today by becoming a faithful steward of the Central Children's Home In Oxford, N.C. and other objectives of our Convention. Please make the following contacts today to become a beacon of light in the work of God through the General Baptist State Convention:

- Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director,
Central Children's Home
(919) 693-7617; (919) 693-1213; (919)
693-3963 Fax; or E-mail:

cch@gloryroad.net

- Rev. Nilous M. Avery, II, 4th Vice President/CBSC (704) 6370954; (704) 633-6227; (704) 637-1137 Fax; or E-mail:
AveryRevKin@aol.com

"To the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen." (Romans 16:27, NIV).

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The 122nd Annual Session

National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

Dr. William J. Shaw, President

GENERAL HOUSING FORM: SEPTEMBER 2 – SEPTEMBER 6, 2002
DEADLINE: Delegate – July 31, 2002

Requests received after the deadline could possibly be assigned at a hotel not in the housing package.

HOTEL REQUEST: Internet, fax or Mail (Do not send form twice or deposit may be charged twice) housing request form. Telephone reservations will not be accepted. A deposit of \$100.00 for each room must accompany all housing requests. Deposits will be accepted in the form of **certified check, money order, church check, or credit card.** Make checks and money orders payable to NBC Housing/Welcome Philadelphia Housing Bureau. A \$15.00 service charge will be applied to checks returned for non-sufficient funds.

GROUP BLOCKS: Deadline June 14, 2002 The maximum number of group's rooms that can be requested is 50, regardless of church or group affiliation. The NBC/USA Housing Bureau at (800) 650-9590 must explain group procedure. All requests for 10 rooms or more must be submitted to NBC Housing Bureau, with a completed Hotel Reservation form accompanied by the required \$100 deposit per room along with four hotel selections.

CHANGES/CANCELLATIONS: All changes and cancellations must be sent in writing to NBC/USA, Inc. Housing Bureau, 108 Wilmot Road, Suite 400, Deerfield, Illinois 60015-0825. Early departures, changes and cancellations after July 31st, are subject to a \$16.00 processing fee and additional penalty fee set by the hotel. The \$100 deposits will be refunded.

(1) first night's reservation if cancelled within 72 hours prior to day of arrival; (2) deposits will be forfeited. (2) The \$100 deposit will be refunded if you fail to cancel the reservation, no show.

ACCOMMODATIONS: In the event none of your requests are available, every effort will be made to assign comparable housing based on your first choice. Bed types are not guaranteed and are assigned on a first come first served basis. The only confirmation that you will receive will come directly from the NBC/Welcome Philadelphia Housing Bureau.

ROOM ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & CONFIRMATIONS: Upon completion of your rooming requests, the NBC/Welcome Philadelphia Housing Bureau will send a hotel reservation acknowledgment to the organization only. Rate is inclusive of rebate commission to the organization.

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Person to whom acknowledgment will be mailed:
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Organization/Church: _____
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Telephone Number: _____ **Fax:** _____
Email: _____

ROOM INFORMATION:

Arrival Date: _____
Departure Date: _____

☒ SINGLE (1 BED, 1 PERSON)
☐ DOUBLE/DOUBLE (2 BEDS, 2 PERSONS)
☐ TRIPLE (2 BEDS, 3 PERSONS)
☐ QUAD (2 BEDS, 4 PERSONS)
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U.S. Supreme Court Decision on Private School Tuition Vouchers

Statement of Bob Chase, President,
National Education Association
on the
Submitted by Carol Smith, Associate
Editor

The National Education Association pledges to continue to fight for children and public education — and oppose divisive and counter-productive proposals to divert energy, attention, and resources to private school tuition vouchers, despite the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Zelman v. Simmons-Harris*, the Cleveland private school voucher case. Just because vouchers may be legal in some circumstances doesn't make them a good idea.

The record is clear that American public schools have improved dramatically and are continuing to change. Reading and math scores on the National Assessment of Education Progress have increased steadily since 1992, the proportion of high school graduates with a bachelor's degree has grown, and more students are taking advanced math and science and other core academic courses. (See "Good News About Our Public Schools" at www.nea.org/publiced/goodnews.) Vouchers are divisive and an expensive diversion from continuing progress.

Vouchers are not reform. If policy-makers want to act on the issues the parents care most about — (the kitchen table discussions about education opportunity for their children) they will address teacher quality, class size, making sure all schools have high expectations for every child, and providing the resources to help students succeed.

When voters have had an opportunity to choose, they have defeated vouchers by two to one. At least 26 state legislatures have rejected voucher proposals — some of them several times.

Last year, at least eight states

rejected legislative proposals for vouchers, and several more rejected voucher-like tuition tax credits or tax credits or deductions for scholarships. Moreover, a 1992 Congressional Research Service report found that aid to sectarian schools is, at a minimum, uncertain in all but 12 states and explicitly prohibited in at least six states.

We will continue to fight for public schools and against vouchers or related schemes to provide public funds to private and religious schools — at the ballot box, in state legislatures, and in state courts. We will continue this fight in allegiance with the vast majority of American parents who want good schools in their communities. And we will continue this fight with the best interests of children foremost in our minds.

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PREACHER'S HOOPER SERMON REPORT 2002

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Dr. Ricky R. Eason Sr.- 94 Different Sermons (20 hrs. of research per sermon)

SERMON TITLES:

01. Your Anchor Holds And Grips The Solid Rock
02. You Got The Right One Baby/Doing The Thing Right
03. God Said It, I Believe & That Settles It / It All Adds Up
04. Burn Up Or Burn Out For God
05. Busted Britches From Straddling The Fence
06. Dangerous Minds
07. Don't Even Think About It
08. Fired Up By The Holy Ghost
09. Are You Full Of The Stuff
10. Let's Get On Board
11. God Picked Me To Be On His Side
12. Grace On The Race
13. Grow Up Or Blow Up
14. Hang In There
15. He Lifted Me Up Out Of The Miry Clay
16. Look Where The Lord Has Brought Me From
17. If My People
18. We Can Do It For A New Day Has Come
19. I Know What Prayer Can Do
20. Put Some Clothes On Child
21. A Right Thing In A Wrong Time
22. The Man Who Had Everything But The Right Thing
23. Soap For The Soul
24. Stay On The Lord's Side
25. If You Take One Step He'll Take Two
26. Stepping In Your Own Mess
27. I Can't Lose With The Stuff I Use
28. You Can't Touch This
29. Warm In A Cold Situation
30. That's The Way He Died But That's Not The End Of The Story
31. What You See Is What You Get
32. What's Faith Got To Do With It
33. You Can't Make It Without God
34. I Just Want To Say... "Thank You Lord"
35. A Heart Like Thine
36. Just A Closer Walk With Thee
37. Give Me A Clean Heart So I Can Serve You
38. What Ever The Problem God Has The Answer
39. Peace - In The Midst Of My Storm
40. I Am On The Right Road, Now!
41. A Good Man In A Bad Situation
42. Good Medicine For A Bad Ailment
43. Stand Up And Testify
44. Bad Boys! What You'll Going To Do When He Comes For You
45. Angels Just Keep Watching Over Me
46. Go Ahead! Make My Day
47. A Trip To The Cross
48. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! He Is Somebody's Preacher
49. On The Day Of Pentecost
50. Jesus Is All That! And A Whole Lot More
51. Muddy Putty In The Potters Hands
52. When Stress Controls You Jesus Consoles You
53. Black Men And Women, Changing A Generation
54. I Am Black But I Am Somebody
55. Staying Afloat In A Sinking Boat
56. He That Has A Friend Must Show Himself Friendly
57. Victory Is Mine
58. Occupy Till I Come
59. A Man On A Mission/The Borrowed Ax
60. Busy In God's Business
61. That's Just Like Mama
62. He's Alive And I Am Glad About It
63. What The World Needs Now Is Love Sweet Love
64. I Moved From My Old House And My Old Friends
65. I Just Want To Know Why
66. What Do You Do When Life Is Not Fair
67. Why Do Bad Things Happen To Good People
68. What Do You Do When Your Brook Runs Dry
69. Diagnosis From Dr. Jesus, Go And See The Dr.
70. Who Is This Man
71. What Would Jesus Do
72. If I Could But Touch The Hem Of His Garment
73. Come See A Man Twenty-One (21) New Sermons
74. Wounded By The Ones You Love
75. How To Stand In The Storms Of Life
76. Don't Quit
77. Speak To Me Lord Jesus
78. Get Behind Me Satan
79. Good Things Happen When Jesus Shows Up
80. Where Are You? Adam
81. Committed Because I Am Submitted
82. Are You A Disciplined Disciple
83. Answering God's Call
84. Too Blessed To Be Stressed
85. Thrilled By His Will
86. These Things Only Come By Prayer and Fasting
87. Just Like Daddy
88. I Got Two Wing And The World Can't Do Me No Harm
89. The Prayer Of Jabez
90. I Will Meet You On The Other Side
91. Can't Come Right Now, I Am On Duty
92. What A Mighty God We Serve
93. When Life Makes You Wonder
94. Fighting Mad

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SIMPLE INTEREST INCOME CHART

Amount Invested/Semi-Annual Income*

Rates	Years	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
5.40%	3	\$540.00	\$270.00	\$135.00	\$27.00	\$13.50	\$6.75
5.40%	4	540.00	270.00	135.00	27.00	13.50	6.75
5.95%	5	595.00	297.50	148.75	29.75	14.88	7.44
5.95%	6	595.00	297.50	148.75	29.75	14.88	7.44
6.70%	7	670.00	335.00	167.50	33.50	16.75	8.38

COMPOUND INTEREST GROWTH CHART

Amount Invested/Maturity Value*

Rates	Years	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
4.04% Annual Yield	1	\$20,400.00	\$10,200.00	\$5,100.00	\$1,020.00	\$510.00	\$255.00
		20,808.00	10,404.00	5,202.00	1,040.40	520.20	260.10
4.75%	1½	\$21,459.11	\$10,729.56	\$5,364.78	\$1,072.96	\$536.48	\$268.24
4.81% Annual Yield	2	21,968.77	10,984.38	5,492.19	1,098.44	549.22	274.61
	2½	22,490.52	11,245.26	5,622.63	1,124.53	562.26	281.13
5.40%	3½	\$24,100.34	\$12,050.17	\$6,025.08	\$1,205.02	\$602.51	\$301.25
5.47% Annual Yield							
5.95%	4½	\$26,038.51	\$13,019.26	\$6,509.63	\$1,301.93	\$650.96	\$325.48
6.04% Annual Yield	5½	27,610.85	13,805.43	6,902.71	1,380.54	690.27	345.14
6.70%	6½	\$30,694.90	\$15,347.45	\$7,673.73	\$1,534.75	\$767.37	\$383.69
6.81% Annual Yield	7½	32,785.91	16,392.95	8,196.48	1,639.30	819.65	409.82
	8	33,884.24	16,942.12	8,471.06	1,694.21	847.11	423.55
7.00%	8½	\$35,893.51	\$17,946.76	\$8,973.38	\$1,794.68	\$897.34	\$448.67
7.12% Annual Yield	9	37,149.78	18,574.89	9,287.45	1,857.49	928.74	464.37
	9½	38,450.03	19,225.01	9,612.51	1,922.50	961.25	480.63
	10	39,795.78	19,897.89	9,948.94	1,989.79	994.89	497.45

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ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE NEWS

Introducing Quatravis and Quatez..



Quatravis and Quatez

Quatravis and Quatez are loving boys with big hearts and pleasant personalities.

A Closer Look at Quatravis...

Quatravis is happy, fun loving and outgoing. He is very social and he gets along well with everyone, but he is not easily influenced by others. Quatravis loves going to amusement parks, hiking, fishing, playing basketball, and singing and dancing. He is a very spiritual young man who enjoys going to church and participating in church related activities. He is also proud of the difference wearing braces on his teeth has made to his appearance. Quatravis has a learning disability in math calculations and, although he attends a regular classroom, he receives Exceptional Children's Services. Birthday: August 7, 1988

A Closer Look at Quatez...

Quatez is a very affectionate boy who loves to give and receive hugs. He has a soft and loving disposition that shows in his relationships with both

people and animals. Quatez is a smart child who can match wits with nearly anyone and is rarely at a loss for words. He also likes to go to amusement parks and play basketball, ride his bike, hit golf balls and search outdoors for small animals, like turtles. Quatez does not have a specific learning disability, but he does take medication to help him stay focused. He attends resource classes and currently works below grade level, although it is thought he can do much better, academically. Quatez is also working through issues of loss and grief over the death of their mother. Birthday: December 13, 1990

A Family for Quatravis and Quatez...

These terrific kids are very close, although they do have their normal sibling squabbles. They hope to find a permanent loving home together. Quatravis and Quatez would benefit from a nurturing family that will provide the stability and security they both yearn for. An active family that would enjoy taking them to amusement parks or just playing around outside with them would be ideal. They would also benefit from parents to work with them and encourage their academic progress.

(NC #081—741) (NC #081—740)

For more information on these children or adoption, in general, please call the NC Kids toll-free Hotline at 1—877—NCKIDS—1 (1—877—625—4371)

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry Hosts Upcoming Conference

By
Earl Horton
GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry
Director of Public Relations

Come one, Come all, and attend the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Conference on Saturday August 17th at Morning Star First Baptist Church in Hickory where the Dr. Webster Lytle serves as pastor. The conference will begin at 9 AM and will conclude with an awards luncheon.

The conference aim to get the faith communities involved in identifying African American singles and couples in their congregations to become adoptive or foster care parents. The conference will offer workshops that will discuss the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry program, the adoption and foster care process, and the faith communities' involvement of recruiting families for children in custody of the state. Also representatives from County Social Services in Catawba and Guilford Counties will be on hand to lead the discussions on parenting classes and the involvement of DSS in the adoption and foster care process.

The conference also hopes to attract many potential adoptive and foster care parents that are serious about becoming a family to a loving child. In North Carolina there are 9,979 children of all races and ethnic backgrounds that in custody of the state. African American children rank as the majority that is in custody of the state.

Following the seminars there will be an awards luncheon to honor families who have



By Earl Horton
(pictured above)
GBSC Adoption & Foster Care Ministry - Director
Public Relations

stepped up to the call of duty of opening hearts and homes to children. Our featured speaker for the luncheon will be the Reverend Larry Williams, President of Harvest of Hope Family Services Network, Inc. of New Jersey. Harvest of Hope has mobilized church communities throughout New Jersey of the seriousness of providing homes for African American children.

Please schedule and attend the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Conference. We need everyone to be there and get the word out about this conference that should not be missed.

For more information about the conference please call 919-821-7466 or 828-322-7800 (church)

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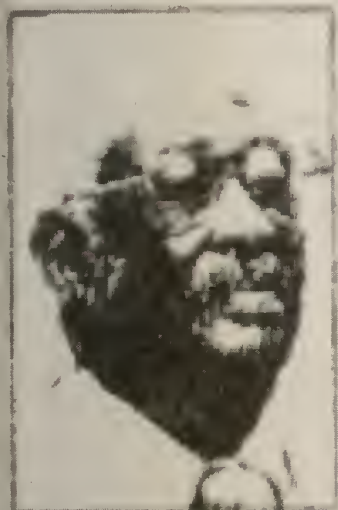
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Rev. Dr. Allen A. Crum



LEIGH - The Reverend Doctor Allen Alexander Crum was one of seven children born to Lucy Clay Crum on November 20, 1919. He was born and raised in Greenville, AL, and later in Detroit, MI. He confessed Christ at an early age and was a member of Rocky Mount Baptist Church in Forest Home, NC. He received his early education in

Greenville, AL, and Natchez Junior College in Natchez, MS, where he received a Doctor of Divinity Degree. Dr. Crum was called into the ministry in 1942. He engaged in a long and distinguished ministerial career.

The Reverend Dr. Crum served a number of churches including Malaby's Crossroad of Raleigh, NC; Kimes Chapel Baptist Church of Mebane, NC; First Baptist Church of Holly Springs, NC; First Missionary Baptist Church of Benson, NC; New Hill Baptist Church in Apex, NC; Green Chapel, Smithfield, NC; and Little Field Baptist Church, Newton Grove, NC. He served his country with honor through the U.S. Army. He was past moderator of the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association, Past President of the Ministers and Deacons Union of the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association, Chairman of the Ministerial Board of Johnston Baptist Association, a member of the Executive Board of the Wake Baptist Association, a member of the board of the General

Rev. Crum Continues below



Joint Session Participants

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By John H. Walker, D. Min.

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Rev. Crum Continued from above

Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and a loyal and devoted disciple and Associate-in-Ministry of Christian Faith Baptist Church.

He was a loving husband and devoted father. He was united in holy matrimony to Mary Lee Moving who preceded him in death. Unto this union was born one daughter, Alfreda Crum.

In 1965 he met and fell in love with Iris Spencer and they were married in 1966. He leaves to cherish his memory: a devoted wife of 35 years, Iris Crum, one daughter, Alfreda Crum Royal of Philadelphia, one stepdaughter, Brenda Bow, man of Raleigh, NC; one stepson, William Jones of Pennsauken, NJ; two sisters, Mrs. Fannie Freeman of Portland, OR, and Mrs. Rosa Nell Warren of Greenville, AL; two brothers, Charlie Bob Smith (Catherine) of Pensacola, FL and R. C. Partin and wife of Detroit, MI; two sisters-in-law, Clara Smith of Brew-ton, AL, and Annie Ruth Crum of Detroit, MI; eight grandchildren; six great- grand children; one great-great-grandchild; a host of nieces and nephews; and two spe-

cial friends, Mr. Earl Williams and Mr. LeVon Jenkins.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2002 at Christian Faith Baptist Church, 509 Hilltop Drive, Raleigh, NC. Family visitation will be at 10:30 a.m. followed by services 11-a.m. Burial takes place at Carolina Biblical Gardens.

In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to Christian Faith Baptist Church Future Development Fund. Arrangements by Haywood Funeral Home.

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ELECTION NEWS

VOTE AND ELECT

JAMES W. SMITH
VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE
GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NC, INC.

(Paid Advertisement)

EDUCATED - EXPERIENCED
DEDICATED - COMMITTED

CAMPAIGN POSITIONS

**** WILL SUPPORT AND PUSH FOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN ALL AREAS OF FUNDRAISING WITHIN THE CONVENTION.**

**** BELIEVE THAT EVERY PASTOR OF A CHURCH AFFILIATED WITH THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION SHOULD HAVE SOME SEMINARY/THEOLOGICAL TRAINING.**

**** WILL USE MY POSITION TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERY CHURCH REGARDLESS OF SIZE OR PRESTIGE FEEL THAT SHE IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CONVENTION.**

**** BELIEVE THAT MONIES DESIGNATED TO AN OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, ONLY.**

**** WILL URGE AND PUSH THE CONVENTION TO ESTABLISH A MEDIATION OR ARBITRATION BOARD TO RESOLVE CHURCH CONFLICT.**

**** WILL PUSH FOR THE PUBLICATION AND ADOPTION OF A BAPTIST POLITY/PROCEDURE MANUAL TO BE USED BY CHURCHES AND PASTORS AS A GUIDE, ONLY.**

**** WILL BE FAIR, FIRM AND PROFESSIONAL IN PERFORMING MY DUTIES.**

**** WILL OWE MY WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT TO WHOEVER IS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THIS GREAT CONVENTION.**

PARLIAMENTARIAN 2002 TO 2006

I AM RUNNING FOR THE
 OFFICE OF THE
 GBSC PARLIAMENTARIAN

DR. J. RAY BUTLER

UNITED CORNERSTONE
 BAPTIST CHURCH
 WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH
 CAROLINA



Dr. J. Ray Butler
 Senior Pastor

United Cornerstone Baptist Church
 2745 Patria Street
 Winston-Salem, North Carolina
 27127
 (336) 785-1268

"Be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always
 abounding in the work of the Lord,
 forasmuch as ye know that your
 labour is not in vain in the Lord."
 1 Corinthians 15: 58

United Cornerstone Baptist Church
 Winston-Salem, North Carolina

THE 2002 GBSC, Inc. ANNUAL ELECTION

The 2002 GBSC, Inc. Annual Election will be held, October 30, 2002, in Fayetteville, NC. Messengers will be certified throughout the week, from October 28, 2002 until, 12 noon, October 30, 2002.

THOSE PERSONS WHO SEEK TO SERVE AS OFFICERS OF THE GBSC, Inc., AND DESIRE TO BECOME A CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE MUST ANNOUNCE THEIR CANDIDACY IN THE BAPTIST INFORMER AT LEAST THREE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE ELECTION (SEE GBSC CONSTITUTION Article V.)

ALL CANDIDATES SHOULD SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN July 30, 2002, SO THAT BALLOTS CAN BE PREPARED.

CANDIDATES SHOULD SEND THEIR LETTERS OF INTENTION TO:

Reverend F. O. Bass
 GBSC, Inc. Nominating
 Committee

716 Leonard Avenue
 High Point, NC 27260
 336-882-9216

Please subscribe NOW!
See page 28 for more details.

www.GBSC.org
1-800-639-GBSC

ECCLESIASTES 3: 4 "... AND A TIME TO LAUGH..."



Minister Alcindor Hankins
Gospel Comedian
405 Creekbluff Drive
Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina 27526
(919) 557-1227
alcindor9@hotmail.com

Psalm 46:10 "Be Still and Know That I am God"
"He's More God Than I Ever Need"

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here is the steeple
Open the door and
see all the people**

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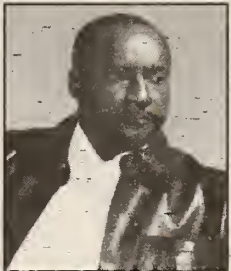
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**MOUNT PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
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SIS MACHALLE LOVE

**C/O MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
414 PITTMAN GROVE CHURCH RD**

RAEFORD, NC 28376

910-875-2669 - (LEAVE A MESSAGE)

MODERATOR OF MODERATORS NEWS



By Reverend James W. Smith, JD
(pictured above)
Moderator of Moderators

RESOLVING CHURCH CONFLICT ISSUES

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters! As we begin approaching the end of the term for this Moderator of Moderators committee, we went to reiterate an issue that we have previously shared with you. We have been sharing with you and lifting up issues that we trust have been helpful in some way. Church Conflict, if not handled properly, will eventually lead the church to court. So, it would seem that a church would do

well to establish a procedure for dealing with disputes, disagreement, or grievances, which are bound to develop in spite of the best of Christian intentions. It is tragic when such disputes or grievances make it to the court system to be resolved. Every effort should be made to settle such matters within the framework of the church structure. Churches would do well to establish a written procedure for dealing with conflict and employee grievance.

I am aware that many Pastors do not care for a constitution and bylaws in the church. They have said to me that it sounds like legalistic sod everything that I need to operate my church with is in the Bible. Well, what can I say when confronted with a statement like that? Nothing. Actually, if we all followed the teachings of the Bible, I would not get all these calls and there would be less conflict and going to court. Now, there is nothing that I am aware of that can stop a church or church members from taking each other to court. If a church would consider placing some type of language into her bylaws that would require the church or members to exhaust the church's remedy before going to court, such conflict may be resolved prior to court. I have suggested language such as this.

"Neither the church nor her members shall bring a legal action against the

church and members shall not bring a legal action against each other without first exhausting his/her administrative remedy. For this purpose, administrative remedy shall include: (1) allowing the moderator and/or independent council of the association of the church's membership or a designate of the General Baptist State Convention of NC (example Moderator of Moderators' Council) to assist in mediating and resolving such issues; or (2) allowing an independent professional mediation or dispute resolution agency assist in resolving such issue."

I believe that once these steps are taken, the parties are more likely to arrive at some solution and thereby eliminate the need to proceed to court. May I say further that if your church is already in conflict, please do not attempt to develop and adopt a constitution and bylaws for the church. When this is done, bylaws are generally slanted and not well thought out by the church.

If you wish our services in any way, please contact us at the following:

Dr. James W. Smith	Dr. Joshua J. Haire, Jr.
146 Presidents Drive	P.O. Box 53803
Durham, NC 27704	Fayetteville, NC
28305	
(919) 479-0501	(910) 323-1508

Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com

Rev. W. J. Cox
107 07 Gray Street
Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 751-9899

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INSTITUTIONAL AND SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES

STATE BUDGET CUTS TO EFFECT 18 PRISON CHAPLAIN POSITIONS

by Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman
Jeff Locus, Co-Chairperson



Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman

Presently, the N. C. legislatures are considering budget cuts that will cause 18 state funded prison chaplain positions to be lost. The GBSC has labored hard in the past to ensure more chaplains were employed by the state in order to provide pastoral leadership to inmates within the prisons.

We are calling on all GBSC Pastors and Moderators to take steps in your sphere of influence to stress the vital importance of the chaplain in the prisons. If these positions are lost there will be no one to provide needed counsel, pastoral care, teaching/preaching and crisis intervention in many of these prisons. Let your voice be known to your respective state representatives. Let us NOT sleep on this issue. The only true rehabilitation is not accomplished by prison bars, but by a change of heart by walking with Jesus Christ from crime to contribution.

**2ND ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 27 - 28, 2002**

The 2nd Annual Crime & Incarceration conference is only two months away. Ensure your plans are in order to join us for this opportunity to experience quality training, informational lectures, worship, and interaction with inmates. This conference will be held at one of the largest federal correctional complexes in the nation.

(Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, North Carolina - 10 minutes from Durham, N.C. on Old N.C. Highway 75).

All conference attendees who desire to go into the institutions will need to fill out a NCIC security check form in advance. See the conference flyer to get contact information. This form is essential if you desire to take part in our worship services and Day of Dialogue inside the prisons. The NCIC security check form MUST be filled out and returned or faxed back in advance.

Deadline for all NCIC security forms will be September 13, 2002.

This conference will bring together persons of expertise in prison ministry, correctional professionals, community organizations, GBSC churches and parachurch organizations. **JOIN US FOR THIS UNIQUE EXPERIENCE AND OPPORTUNITY TO BE EQUIPPED TO RESPOND TO LIVES IMPACTED BY CRIME AND INCARCERATION!** (WRITE FOR CONFERENCE FLYERS FOR YOUR CHURCH CONTACT BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338, 800-639-GBSC, 919-821-7466.

www.gbsc.org

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(PLEASE CONTACT CHURCHES FOR SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS SOME REQUIRE 3 OR MORE YEARS PASTORAL EXPERIENCE, SEMINARY TRAINING, MISSIONARY BAPTIST ORDINATION, MUSICAL SKILLS) (FOR SPECIFIC CHURCH QUALIFICATIONS CONTACT THE PULPIT COMMITTEE)

PASTORS

MOUNT OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Bayboro, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. One business and two personal references (no family references)

Send information to:

Mayor B. Credle, Deacon Chairman
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5972 NC Highway 304
Bayboro, NC 28515

OLIVE BRANCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:

The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chairperson
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

PASTOR: OAKLEY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Clayton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. Personal references

Send information to:

Oakey Grove Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson
PO Box 2435
Smithfield, NC 27577

MOUNT CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for an ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. Salary Negotiable based on experience and qualifications

Send information to:

Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Committee
PO Box 1421
Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1421

FIRST BAPTIST CHARITY CHURCH, Greenevers, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Services are first, second, third and fourth Sundays. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:

Deacon Fernald Rawles, Jr.
920 Pasture Branch Road
Rose Hill, NC 28458

MOUNT PLEASANT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Harrellsville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor. The church is located in Hertford County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A Resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. Two personal references (no family references)

Send information to:

Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Pastoral Search Committee
ATTN: Deacon Eugene White
815 Swains Mill Road
Harrellsville, NC 27942

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

A Resume

Send information to:

Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Pastoral Search Committee
Route 2, Box 128
Norlina, NC 27563

GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Oakboro, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. The church is located in Stanley County, 45

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minutes east of Charlotte. We are affiliated with the Zion Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide a resume:

Send information to:
Deacon James Ashcraft
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 644
Oakboro, NC 28129

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Thomasville, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide a resume. Send information to:

Tanya M. Autry, Chairperson
Pastoral Search Committee
First Missionary Baptist Church
103 Church Street
Thomasville, NC 27360

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST Church, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are located in Warren County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
 2. A copy of religious credentials:
License/Ordination
- Send information to:
Mrs. Lucy E. Branch
PO Box 52
Warrenton, NC 27589

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, Newburgh, NY: currently accepting applications for Senior Pastor with strong Baptist roots. The Committee will provide each candidate with an application packet.

Send request to:
Ebenezer Baptist Church
ATTN: Deacon Milton Buxton/Confidential
PO Box 248
Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

SHADY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, East Spencer, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
 2. At least four references: (2) business (2) personal
 3. A copy of religious credentials:
License/Ordination
- Send information to:
Shady Grove Baptist Church
ATTN: Clarence A. Jones, Chairperson
PO Box 447
East Spencer, NC 28039

FOSTER MEMORIAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Rocky Mount, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:
Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church
The Pulpit Committee
C/o Mr. Hiawatha Knight
PO Box 6317
Rocky Mount, NC 27802-6317

MOUNT CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Wilmington, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume or Letter of Interest
 2. At least five references: (Two can be ministers)
 3. A copy of religious credentials:
License/Ordination
- Send information to:
Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
ATTN: Rena Lennon
PO Box 1970
Wilmington, NC 28420

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Kittrell, NC currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume with cover letter of interest
- Send information to:
Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 175
Kittrell, NC 7544-0175
252-492-0567

EASTERN STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: of Tarboro, North-Carolina 27886 seeking a pastor.

- He must be experienced
- Well seasoned
- He must believe in the word of god
- He must live by the word of god
- Willing to teach Sunday school and bible study class
- Must be between the age of 25-55

Please submit Resume to:
Pulpit Committee
Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 1677
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886

MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH: seeking a new Pastor. Effective July 31, 2002, our esteemed pastor, Dr. James M. Moore, Jr. will retire after 24 years of service to Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church. We are now faced with the task of finding a pastor. We are looking for a pastor who is familiar with Missionary Baptist Church doctrine. We are also looking for someone who is concerned

with developing all areas of the church and who has good leadership skills, both organizational and spiritual.

We will begin accepting applications immediately and will accept them through Oct. 31, 2002. Interested applicants should forward a resume to:

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 12
Beaufort, NC 28516

ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH

Buffalo, New York A Church with a Mission Pastoral Vacancy

The St. John Baptist Church seeks a Pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. St. John has a rich legacy of 75 years of service to the city, county, state and country, which suggest the following list of desired characteristics:

- Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
- Must possess ability to teach, train and coach church officers and auxiliary leaders.
- Must have the skills and be willing to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
- Must have the prerequisite administrative skills, which include the ability to articulate, negotiate and facilitate effectively with a diverse community including educational, business, political, civic and philanthropic communities.
- Evidence of community awareness and involvement
- Must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of the Church.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE MUST INCLUDE:

- Minimum of ten years in the ministry as a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
 - Terminal masters degree from a recognized accredited seminary or theological institution.
 - Must possess strong and proven administrative skills and experience.
 - Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies and procedures, and willingness to follow the by-laws governing the church
 - Must possess effective oral and written communication skills
 - Demonstrated financial ability and experience with 1 Million + budgets
- Interested persons meeting all of the above characteristics and minimum qualifications should submit the following information:
- A resume and letter of interest to include a vision statement as it related to their ministry.
 - Copies of license and ordination certification
 - Proof of completion of ALL accredited

theological training

Name, address and telephone number of five [5] personal and professional references with no more than three [3] coming from other ministries familiar with your ministry along with an audio/video sample of a sermon.

Completed applications will be accepted for the posting period July 22, 2002 - August 23, 2002. Applications postmarked prior to and after the posting period will not be considered. Completed applications should be sent via certified/return receipt mail addressed to: Mr. Manning Fogan, II, Chair, Pulpit Committee, St. John Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1038, Getzville, New York 14068-1038

SECOND CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 114 NELSON AVENUE CHARLOTTE, NC 28216

Second Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a full time pastor to serve as spiritual leader, teacher and counselor for her congregation. Finalist for this position must meet the following qualifications:

- o Born-again licensed, ordained minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- o Knowledge of Baptist doctrine, practices and polity
- o BA degree from an accredited institution of higher learning
- o Senior Pastor for at least four to five years
- o Good administrative and communication skills
- o Ability to communicate with all age groups especially the youth
- o Leadership experience in developing or administering youth programs and community service programs
- o Willingness to affiliate at the national, state and local Baptist conventions and associations.
- o Present location within five hours driving time from Charlotte
- o Willingness to submit to a police and credit check

Resumes for persons meeting these qualifications should be sent to the Pulpit Search Committee at the address shown above. Resume deadline date is September 19, 2002

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CHURCH STAFF: **MUSICIANS**

REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE:

Born-again Christian, Spirit-titled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.

Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.

Able to play the piano. Keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.

Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.

Able to teach, as, well as direct choirs, with humility and love.

Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services

Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).

Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship.

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: Wake Forest congregation seeks musician. 1.) The duties include working directly with the pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship, 2.) Playing during Sunday morning worship service, 3.) Rehearsing with various choirs one night per week, 4.) And accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church
2700 Creedmoor Road
Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587
(919) 870-8874

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY: THE SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the appropriate qualifications. (SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS AT BEGINNING OF CHURCH STAFF/MUSICIAN SECTION):

For additional information please send inquiry resume to:

SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH
PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589
Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

MUSICIAN NEEDED: Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday. Prepare choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship. Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times. Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church functions. Direct congregation in congregational hymns. Must be able to play the organ as well as read music

To Apply call:
(704) 532-6813 or E-mail to
GalileeNC@aol.com
GALILEE MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: THE PENN AVENUE MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian, who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano
- *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music
- *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to:
Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214,
Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849
Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED: THE PENN AVENUE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Oxford, NC. is currently seeking a
MINISTER OF MUSIC.
QUALIFICATIONS:
(SEE SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS LISTED IN BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION)

*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 am with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 am. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED: THE NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH of Gates N.C. is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir to church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 91,
Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Calling (252) 357-1061 may make inquiries after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED: Knowledge of music and the ability to play by ear is appreciated. Presently, morning worship service is held every fourth (4th) Sunday, but

we are considering an additional Sunday for services. Must be able to play for youth choir and adult choir. Church is located in Warren County, North Carolina. For further information, please call:
(252) 257-0221.

MUSIC OF MINISTER NEEDED: THE CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH in Gastonia, NC is currently seeking a Minister of Music. (SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION. PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH AT THE ADDRESS LISTED BELOW FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION) Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to:
Center Baptist Church. Attention:
Personnel Committee.
POB 550064
Gastonia, NC. 28055
or fax cover letter and resume to:
Personnel Committee at: 704-824-7683.

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH is seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music. Loyal and (Committed to Gods program.) Must possess people skills, be trained as a Musician, Conductor, and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:
Attention:
Trustees Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
913.N. Highland Street
Gastonia, NC 25052

CHURCH MUSICIAN: THE CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Gibson, N.C. is seeking a person to. serve as Church Musician. Qualifications: (PLEASE SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION)Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at this address.
CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
14600 Railroad St.
Gibson, NC 28343

CHURCH MUSICIAN: THE FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH is accepting resumes for a Church Musician. Qualifications: (SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION) Salary negotiable:
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See insert on Page 28 for more Details.

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Baptist Informer

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER LOGAN APPEALS FOR VAN

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina needs a VAN. If you, your Church or Association has a van you are willing to donate to the "WORK." Please contact:
Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., 603
South Wilmington Street,
Raleigh, NC 27601-2338, 919-
821-7466; 800-639-4272;
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Baptist Informer



Volume 125, No 9

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

September 2002

HISTORIC 135TH ANNUAL SESSION TO CONVENE IN FAYETTEVILLE, NC OCTOBER 27-31, 2002

(ELECTION OF GBSC OFFICERS WILL
HIGHLIGHT THE PROGRAM)

By Archie D. Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-
Treasurer

The 135th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina will convene in Fayetteville, NC, October 27-31, 2002. The Mount Olive Baptist Church, Reverend Dr. Carl E. Brinkley, Jr., Pastor will serve as host. The session theme, "The challenge Is The Same: Reach the Masses" John 12:32 (KJV).

The session brings to an end the Presidency of the Reverend Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., Pastor of the historic Lewis Missionary Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC. Dr. Fuller has left an outstanding legacy as President of the GBSC. (A special 135th Year edition of the Informer will appear next month that will

include highlights of his Presidency.)

A new GBSC President and administration will be elected in October. This election will be historic in the history of the GBSC. The new President will be the first President elected in this century and millennium to serve the Convention. It is important for all churches to pre-register and to get your messengers certified. Election Kits are in the mail. If your church does not receive its materials or if you have questions please call Baptist Headquarters, 800/639-GBSC. Make your plans now!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

6:00 PM, Sunday Evening, October 27, 2002
Pre-Convention Musical & Reception,
Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Johnson Street,
Fayetteville, NC

GBSC

ELECTION YEAR

135th ANNUAL SESSION

OCTOBER 27-31, 2002

****ELECTION DAY- WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2002 ****

HOST CHURCH: MT. OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
118 JOHNSON STREET
FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA,

HOST PASTOR: REVEREND CARL E. BRINKLEY



(pictured above: President Fuller walks along with other GBSC officials.)
See the officers of the GBSC stay fit and more in the Highlights Section on pgs 16-17

SEE PAGE TWO FOR MORE GBSC ELECTION NEWS.

135TH ANNUAL SESSION SCHEDULE

CELEBRATING 135 YEARS: 1867 - 2002

Convention Sessions will be held at Cumberland County Coliseum Complex Arena

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2002

8:30 AM Registration
 9:00 - 10:0 AM Auxiliaries Executive Committees
 10:00 AM Opening
 10:15 Opening Theme Address
 11:00 AM Opening Sermon
 2:00 - 3:30 PM Political/Empowerment Forum
 4:00 PM Preaching With Power
 7:00 PM Local Program
 8:30 PM 135th Annual Sermon
 10:00 PM Late Night Worship
 10:00 PM Late Night Worship

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2002

8:30 AM Registration
 9:00 AM - Devotion
 9:30 - 10:45 AM Minister's Council
 Stewardship Offering
 11:00 AM Sermon
 2:00 - 2:50 PM Project Reports
 3:00 PM Past President's Sermon
 4:00 - 5:00 PM Remarks/Announcements
 7:00 PM President's Night
 Special Guest Dr. William J. Shaw, President, NBCUSA
 Special Love Offering for out-going President John D. Fuller, Sr.

 10:00 PM Late Night Worship

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2002

8:30 AM Registration
 9:00 AM - Devotion
 9:15 - 9:50 AM Sermon
 10:30 - 11:30 AM Meet GBSC Candidates
 11:30 - 12:30 AM Election Reports and Election Rules
 12:30 - 4:00 PM GBSC Election
 3:00 - 5:00 PM 135th Celebration Worship & Sermon

Election Results
 7:00 - 8:00 PM Devotion
 Greetings
 8:30 PM Evening Sermon
 10:00 PM Late Night Worship

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2002

(Closing Session at Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church)

8:30 AM Registration
 9:00 AM - Devotion
 9:15 - 9:45 AM Theme
 10:45 - 11:30 AM GBSC Reports & Business
 Stewardship Offering
 11:00 - Closing Sermon
 11:45 AM Installation of Officers
 Closing Remarks President Elect GBSC, Inc.

Below is the hotel and motel information. All the sessions are important. Time will be provided to answer any questions you have about GBSC, Inc, election procedures. One person will have one vote! Pastors you cannot vote in the place of your members, messengers must be present to vote. All ballots will be validated.

Pray for the success of the "work."

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 800-537-2268
 \$65.00 + TAX

RADISSON PRINCE CHARLES
 450 HAY STREET
 FAYETTEVILLE, NC
 SINGLES & DOUBLES
 910-433-4444
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The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
 Voice of 500,000 Baptists

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 Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor
 Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor
 Phyllis D. Coley, Publisher

Michael Eley, Graphic Designer

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor
 of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

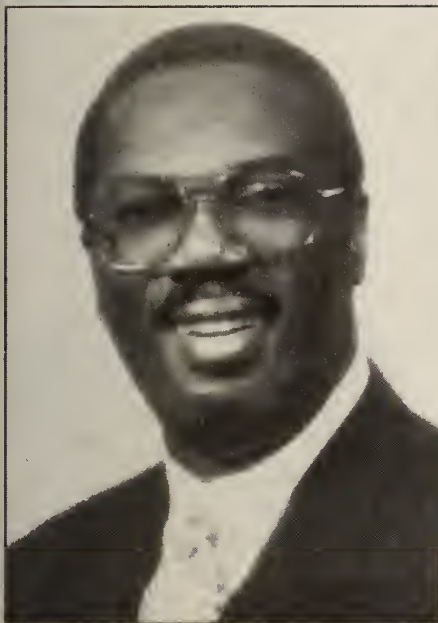
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PRESIDENT'S NEWS



Dr. Fuller

Ministry & Money

by
Reverend Dennis Leach BS. M. Div.,
Ministry, (Lat. *Ministerium*, "service"). The service to God in Jesus Christ rendered by the church, and by individuals through the power of the Holy Spirit. The roles given the general title "ministry" (*diakonia*) carry the fundamental understanding that they are services within the life of the church and the faith community (1Cor. 12:5, 28; Eph. 4:12). Ministry literally has many meanings, (*diakoneo*) is feeding care for, and waiting on guest (Luke. 8:3; 10:40; 17:8; Acts 6:2). It further describes employing the various gifts (*charismata*), which God bestows (1Cor. 12:5; 1Pet. 4:10) as well as referring to specific acts such as an offering (2Cor. 8:19,20), personal help to one in prison (Philemon 13), apostleship (Rom. 11:13), and aid given to a congregation (1Cor. 16:15). In fact, all members of the church have

their own gifts of grace to exercise in ministry to others (1Cor. 12:7-11,14). Ministry involves the working together with other members in the body of Christ in the fulfillment of the "Great Commission." The Baptist Church promotes the giving of tithes and offerings as the basis for the support of Christian ministry.

All forms of service, from "pastoring", to the church clerk are a ministry of Jesus Christ, and derive their authority from him. Jesus' whole life, especially at the cross, is interpreted as an act of ministry (Mk. 10:45). In Jesus' teaching this style of ministry includes caring for the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, and the prisoner (Mt. 25:44). All Church members should seek the embodiment of the Gospel in day-to-day life, and the single word that might best affirm the nature of that life is love. Love is a proactive word. From providing for the needs of a senior pastor, to going into foreign fields ministry cost money. Without money no significant ministry can take place. God, through the Bible provides us a way we can support the ministries of the church, through tithes and offerings (Malachi 3:8).

Biblical Principles of Giving

A tithe is a tenth of your earnings, and it is a portion that belongs to God Leviticus 27:30-31.

Tithes began with Abraham because he had seen that God owned everything and had blessed him with abundance: Genesis 14:19,20.

Giving in general especially sacrifices; pleases God more than wealth given without meaning. Giving is as much a part of serving God as prayer and fasting: Mark 12:43-44, Matthew 6:3,5,16, Luke 6:38.

We are to give of our substance, our time, our energy, and our hospitality: Hebrews 13:15

We minister to and for the Lord in giving by presenting our bodies as living sacrifices,

and our possessions not only to praise him but to serve others in love: Romans 12:1 Galatians 5:13

The ministry of giving is an act of worship, it is the giving first of ourselves and then all we possess to God: II Corinthians 8:4,5.

The Holy Spirit directs our giving once we have given ourselves to him. We give according to what we have, what is needed, and what is our fair share of responsibility: Romans 12:13

Jesus taught that the most important part of giving is the attitude of our heart: Luke 12:33,34

God wants us to give in ways which glorify him and which prepare us to receive more blessings from him. Therefore, we should give willingly, generously, gladly, and simply: II Corinthians 8:12, 9:6,7. Romans 12:8.

Our responsibility for giving today is to support the ministry of the local church. Then we are to give to our brothers and sisters, and to the needy around the world: Malachi 3:10, I Corinthians 16:2, Galatians 6:10.

How much do we give?

Being a good steward, is giving back to God a portion of what He's entrusted to us. It is not that God "needs" our money or stewardship resources. Rather, stewardship giving

serves as an external, material testimony that God owns both the material and spiritual things in our lives. It also supports the greatest, most enduring work ever conducted in this world: the Lord's work and Kingdom Building.

One of the first standards of giving found in the Bible is the tithe, a word that means "tenth." Abraham tithe in Genesis 14 after returning from the daring rescue of his nephew Lot from four enemy kings. He encountered the priest Melchizedek and voluntarily surrendered to him one-tenth of all the spoils he had taken from his enemies. It is often said that the tithe is the Old Testament "legalism," but Abraham tithe some 430 years before the Law was given to Moses.

Tithing has been, and always will be, a voluntary act on the part of God's people. But although not tithing brings about a withholding of God's blessings, tithing with proper motives invokes God's blessings: "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows" (Malachi 3:10).

In order to bring our tithes into the "storehouse" continues on page 12

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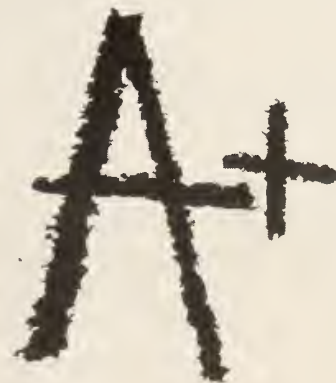
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WOMEN'S CONVENTION NEWS



Dr. Brodie

"ALL PRAISES AND THANKS TO GOD"

By Executives Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom His world rejoices:
Who from our mother's arms
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God,
Thro' all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts, And blessed
peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace, And guide
us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills In this world
and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given, The Son
and Him who reigns With Them in
highest heaven; The one eternal
God, Whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now, And shall be
evermore.

Martin Rinkart and Johann Cruger
Translated by Catherine Winkworth

This song very well could
express the sentiment of persons who
gathered at the Annual Session in cel-

eboration of what Christ has done with
and through the Woman's Convention
during the 2001-2002 fiscal year.
Now being thankful and grateful to
God for this Cause, let us begin a new
year by telling the same "Old, Old
Story" of Jesus and His love, by prac-
ticing His love with caring and sharing
with others, and helping to win souls
for Christ. We would like to see each
of you at the Family Missions
Conference and The Youth
Evangelism Conference (See the arti-
cle in this paper.).

The Woman's Convention
thanks God and all persons and mis-
sionary organizations for contributions
sent during the immediate past fiscal
year. **The new fiscal year begins this
month and ends in August 2003.**
**The proposed budget for this year
will be near \$806,055.00, which will
be distributed among the objectives:**
Foreign Missions, State Missions,
Shaw University, Shaw Divinity
School, Central Children's Home,
and Baptist Assembly. Checks and
money orders for the Woman's
Convention should be made payable
to the Woman's Baptist State
Convention or Woman's Baptist
Home and Foreign Missionary
Convention and sent to:
Woman's Baptist State Convention
P O Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602
The work continues to grow; therefore
more prayers, attendance, services,
and sacrificial financial giving are
needed.

REMINDERS

FAMILY MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Reverend Lacy Joyner and
First Baptist Church, Granville Street,
Oxford, will serve as hosts to the
Annual Family Missions Conference
on Saturday, September 28, 2002,
beginning at 9:00A.M. Concurrent
sessions are planned for Seniors,

Young Adults and Youth. The sessions
are Seniors-"Family To Families:
Families Making A Difference", led by
Reverend and Mrs. Robert Sanders: 2.
Young Adults-"Family To Families:
Families Making A Difference", led by
Reverend & Mrs. James Eason 3. The
Youth discussions for the different
youth age levels will center around the
same theme as the other sessions.

Families who complete the
Family Study Guide during August
(Family Month) and attend this
Conference will receive certificates.

All families across the State are
invited to attend and share in this
Conference, and to bring their Bibles
and a sacrificial offering. Envelopes
will be available for each family or
family organizations' offering; the
offering will be credited to the contri-
bution of the family's church to the
Woman's Convention.

Directions To First Baptist Church, Oxford, NC

Coming From Rocky Mount:

Take US 64W
Then take the I-440 ramp
Merge onto I-440
Take the Exit 4 exit
Continue on ramp
Merge on Raleigh Chapel Hill Expy
Continue on I-40 W
Take the Exit 279 exit
Merge on NC-147 (Durham Freeway)
Take the Exit 16 exit
Continue on Ramp
Merge on US 15
Take the I-85 N. Exit
Merge on I-85 N
Take the Exit 204 exit
Turn Left on Linden Avenue
Then Left on Easy Street
Turn Right on Granville Street
The Church is located on Granville
Street



Dr. Julius McDonald

Directions Coming From Charlotte:

Take I-85 N
Continue on I-85 N
Take the Exit 204 exit
Turn Left on Linden Avenue
Turn Left on Easy Street
Turn right on Granville Street
The church is located on Granville
Street

Directions Coming From Henderson:

Take I-85 S
Take the Exit 204 exit
Continue on Ramp
Turn Right on Linden Avenue
Turn Left on Easy Street
Turn Right on Granville Street
The Church is located on Granville
Street

Directions Coming From Fayetteville:

Take I-95 N
Take the Exit 81 exit
Keep left around curve
Merge on I-40 W
Take the Exit 279 exit
Merge on NC-147
Take the Exit 16 Exit
Continue on Ramp
Merge on I-85 N Exit

Take Exit 204 exit
Turn Left on Linden Avenue
Turn Left on Easy Street
Turn Right on Granville Street
The Church is located on Granville Street

“...Check and make sure the road still exists.... This is only to be used as an aid in planning.”

**21st Annual
Youth Evangelism
Conference
Saturday,
November 2, 2002
9:00 A.M. – 1:00
P.M.**

Roanoke Rapids High School

Roanoke Rapids, NC

Hosted by

Halifax County Union

Directions to Roanoke Rapids High School
The school is located in the 800 block of Hamilton Street

Directions from Raleigh
Take New Bern Avenue towards Rocky Mount/Wilson
Continue on US-64 East
Take the I-95 Exit towards Richmond
Merge on I-95 North
Take the Roanoke Rapids (NC 125) Exit # 171
Turn Left on Grapevine Road
Turn Right on Smith Church Road
Continue on NC 125
Turn right on Hamilton Street

Directions from Fayetteville, Lumberton and Wilmington Areas
Take I-95 North Exit
Continue on I-95 North take the

Roanoke Rapids (NC 125) exit #171
Turn left on Grapevine Road
Turn Right on Smith Church Road
Continue on NC 125
Turn Right on Hamilton Street

Directions from Durham, Charlotte and surrounding areas:
Take the I-85 North
Continue on I-85 North,
Then take Exit #220 US-1/US-158/Fleming Town /road exit towards Norlina
Turn left on US-1/ US-158
Continue on US-1/US-158
Turn right onto US-158/US-401
Continue on US-158-BYPASS/US-401
Continue on US-158 BYPASS
Turn left on US-158
Turn left on Roanoke Avenue
Turn Right on E 8th Street
The school is located in the 800 block of Hamilton Street

Directions from Louisburg, Franklinton and surrounding areas:
Take on NC 561
Turn Left on NC-43/NC 561
Continue on NC-561
Bear Right on NC-561
Turn Left on NC-48
Turn Right on East 8th Street
The school is located in the 800 block of Hamilton Street

Directions from Elizabeth City and surrounding areas:
Take on US-17 North/US-158 West
Turn left on US-17-BR/US-158 West
Continue on US-158 West
Continue on US 13S/US -158 West
Turn right on US-158 West
Bear left on US-158 West/US 301
Turn left on US-158 West/US 301 South
Make a Hard Right turn on US-158 West
Continue on Roanoke Rapids Road
Continue on US-158 West
Turn right on 10th Street
Continue on East 10th Street
Then turn right on Hamilton Street
The school is located in the 800 block of Hamilton Street

High Flight

By Pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee
Submitted by Rev. Chester Debnam, Jr. a 23-year Air Force Veteran

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silver wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds and done a hundred things

You have not dreamed of wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.

Up, up the long delirious, burning blue,
I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high unsurpassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.

Biography

Pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee, Jr., was an American serving with the Royal Canadian Air Force He was born in Shanghai, China in 1922, the son of missionary parents, Reverend and Mrs. John Gillespie Magee; his father was an American and his mother was originally a British citizen.

He came to the U.S. in 1939 and earned a scholarship to Yale, but in September 1940 he enlisted in the RCAF and was graduated as a pilot. He was sent to England for combat duty in July 1941.

In August or September 1941, Pilot Officer Magee composed High Flight and sent a copy to his parents. Several months later, on December 11, 1941 his Spitfire collided with another plane over England and Magee, only 19 years of age, crashed to his death.

His remains are buried in the churchyard cemetery at Scopwick, Lincolnshire.

**SUPPORT THE GBSC
SUBSCRIBE NOW!!**

**SEE PAGE 28 FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

VICE PRESIDENT'S NEWS



Dr. W. Parker, Jr.

News From The Foreign Field: The Lott Carey

We are preparing for our 105th Annual Session. Meet us in New Orleans, Louisiana on August 28th,

Shaw University, and Shaw Divinity School News

by Reverend N. T. Davis

Praise God from whom all blessings from, Grace and Peace be unto you from God the Father, and from His only Son the Lord Jesus Christ.

Summer is fast coming to an end, the school bell has already sounded. The buses are on the highway, the college classes have begun. It's a special time of the year as fall come rolling in. Let us not forget to Thank God for the summer harvest. The harvest is still the Lords.

Pray for the Mission of the University, and the Divinity School. We need to stay focused on the goals set by the President and Dean, and give your best effort to help achieve the goals set by the Administrative Staff of the University.

Please pray for our youth, they are faced with many challenges and pres-

2002.

We look forward, with anticipation, to the 105th Annual Session of the Loft Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, August 26th — 30th, 2002, In New Orleans, Louisiana, at St. Thomas Baptist Church where Dr. Benjamin Maxon is the Pastor and the Host Committee Chair.

Some of the highlights of the Annual Session Includes the Monday Evening Banquet and an Inspirational Musical, presented by the Host Committee. This year the Women's Auxiliary will Host a Mission Prayer Breakfast on Monday morning and tickets are still available through the Loft Carey Office.

Our special guest will be our mission partners from India, Kenya, Uganda, Haiti, Guyana, Zimbabwe and Liberia. You will have the opportunity to meet and fellowship with our

From the Field Continues on page 7

sure from outside forces. We ask the students to do their best in class, make your parents proud. Many opportunities will come only once in a lifetime.

Football will be back so "Lets go Bears" and bring home the bacon.

As my Tenure come to a close as Third Vice President, I. would like to thank all the people of this State for allowing me to be elected, and serve

Shaw News Continues on page 7



Rev. N. T. Davis

From the Desk of the Fourth Vice-President

Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II M. Div.

To my brothers and sisters in the General Baptist "tie" that binds Our hearts in Christian love: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus the Father of compassion the God of all comfort, who comforts in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4, NIV).

What a wonderful thought to know with assurance that God is merciful. God blesses us so that through us, others will be blessed. The writer in Ecclesiastes noted that some things do change. There is a session for every activity under heaven" (Ecclesiastics 3:1b). Change occurs: from being born to dying ... from planting to uprooting ... from killing to healing ... from tearing down to building up ... from crying to laughing from loving to hating... and so on. Some things do change.

For many who have seen a number of "getting ups and lying downs." dramatic changes have taken place. Many conveniences we take for granted today wets nonfat the beginning of the 20th century (the year 1900). Change is constant:

- From kerosene lamps to electric lights
- From the horse-and-buggy to the automobile;

From the Wright Brothers to superson-



Rev. Nilous M. Avery, II M.Div.

ic aviary & the space shuttle;

- From telegraph to cordless and cellular phones;
- Tape recorders, remote controls, microwaves, microchips, microdots, pagers/beepers, voice activation, TV's, VCR's CD's, DVD's, VCD's, MP3's, PC's, laptops, pocket organizers, software, hardware, Tupperware, superstores, condos, stereos, highways, parkways, pornography, cinematography, zoning, cloning, multi-million dollar contracts for entertainers/athletes/CEO's/COO's ... and the beet goes on!

Some things do change! A traveler from the early 1900's would not recognize the world as it exists today. And yet, some things do not change. When a woman came to Jesus with an alabaster jar of expensive perfume and

Avery Continues on page 7

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MORE VICE PRESIDENT'S NEWS

From the Field Continued from page 6

mission partners and be informed about the work being done around the world.

Our regular event during the Annual Session week is the Sunrise Prayer Service, Tuesday through Thursdays 5:30 am-7:30 am. This is always an inspiring service of prayer, testimony, praise and fellowship. More than 1000 people normally gather, to transform a hotel ballroom into a sanctuary of worship.

We are excited about the Mission Education Classes and the excellent instructors for these classes. Our mission partners from around the world will visit classes and you will have the opportunity to dialogue with them again at the closing program. The classes will begin Tuesday.

August 27 Friday, August 30th from 7:30 am: - 9:15am. We are pleased to again provide a pre-convention, Saturday Mission Education Class for all classroom managers. Registration and books will be available beginning Saturday, August 24, 2002.

Our Youth will have special classes and projects to inform and inspire them about global missions. The Women's Auxiliary will hold a reception to honor "The Women Of The Week" and the Laymen will provide a forum for discussion about global issues and our Christian response to the crisis that challenges world peace.

Plan to be in New Orleans, Louisiana for the 105th Annual Session. You will learn how your giving supports missions around the world. You will experience warm fellowship and worship. You will learn and grow in response to Gods' call, to extend our Christian witness to the ends of the earth.

See You In New Orleans!

Avery Continued from page 6

poured ft on His head (in Matthew 26), Jesus' disciples became angry and complained. They concluded that the perfume could have been sold and the money given to the poor. Jesus replied that the poor would always be around.

Some things do not change! People still need food because they get hungry. People still need comforting because they experience grief. People still need guidance because they get confused. People still need compassion and companionship because they get lonely. People still need forgiveness and a Savior because they (or should I say we all) sin. People still need hope because at some point we all die.

Some things do at change! God's grace, mercy, and love do not change. In Christ, God's image is not stained. In Christ, God's power is not weak. God is immutable. In darkness, God is light ... in chaos, God is truth... in weakness, God's strength in death, God is eternal life! Some things do

change. God does not! God's purpose, power, presence, and provision do not change. As disciples of Christ seeking to reach the masses, our methods may change, but the message is still the REACH THE MASSES!

Are we helping to reach the masses? The Central Children's Home in Oxford is waiting to hear from us. Some things do not change. The home needs our support and prayers. Some things do change. The cost of living and the cost of maintaining the home increase each day. Some things do not change. The people of God in the General Baptist family will rise up to meet every challenge, every lion's den, every Red Sea, every flaming furnace, every wall, every stronghold that attempts to thwart the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

The Children at the Central Children's Home are waiting to see and hear from us.

If you further information, please contact me:

(church) 704-631-0954; (fax) 704-637-1137

E-mail -AveryRevKin@aol.com

"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Corinthians 13:14, NTV). Amen.

Shaw News Continued from page 6

as the fourth, and third Vice President the last four years. To C the Glory for all the Great things He has done.

I have enjoyed the Travel, and been well received everywhere across the State with much Love, and concern for the Ministry of The Central Children Home, and Shaw University, and the Divinity School.

When my tenure ends as Third Vice President, I seek no future Office in the Convention. I will be Praying for all the Candidates seeking to serve the Convention in the future.

Twenty-Five years ago, it was said that this is the Lords work, I believe today, that it is still the Lords work, and we should give to ft our fullest attention.

God still has no hands, but our hands to do his Blessed will and no feet but our feet to climb the rugged hill.

He was, and he is counting heavy on us all to get the job the done. Please

Pray for our Convention that it might move in the right direction, and be more of a Service Organization to Churches, and people in need.

Pray that she will grow stronger, and keep the Faith, and never turn back from being a service plus Organization. Let us not become just a hand-clapping group that renders no service to mankind. To God be the Glory for what He has Already Done.

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STATE USHERS' NEWS



Forest M. Eaves Jr.
State Ushers' President

submitted by Alice W. McNair

State Ushers held their annual Convention, July 19—20, 2002 at the Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C., Dr. Charles Bullock is the pastor. New officers were elected. The new officers are: Pres. Bro. Forest Eaves, Jr.-Charlotte, N.C.; 1st vice: Sis. Helen Thompson-Fayetteville, N.C.; 2nd vice: Bro. Charles Dunn - Knightdale, N.C.; 3rd vice: Bro. Archie Lofton-Wilmington, N.C.; 4th vice Bro. Norman Dorsey - Elizabeth city, N.C.; Sect. Sis. Mary Belle-Four Oaks, N.C.; asst. sect. Sis. Joann McNair- Laurinburg, N.C.; parliamentarian: Sis. Mary Williams-

Louisburg, N.C.; dean: Rev. Marvin T. Clowney-Clinton, N.C.; assist dean: Bro. Roy Harris-Asheville, N.C.; coordinator: Sis. Nancy High-Zebulon, N.C.; and news reporters Sis. Alice W. McNair—Newton Grove, N.C.

Our new president's address is: Mr. Forest M. Eaves, Jr. 801 Walnut Avenue, Charlotte, N.C. 28208-4541 voice (704) 372—5338 or fax (704) 372-0014. His church is Friendship M. Baptist church, Charlotte, N.C., Dr. Clifford Jones, Pastor. The convention was well attended and one of the best. The sermons were inspiring. Friday Morning, the theme address was given by the Rev. Otis Byrd, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Holly Springs, N.C. He spoke from St. John 5:1-8. "It's My Time To Be Blessed." He lifted our spirits. Our Pres. Charles Fletcher made his address from 2nd Corinthians 4:1, "Thank You For Your Grace And Mercy". Very Good! It was motioned and approved that his address would be placed in the Baptist Informer. Pres. Fletcher's family presented him with a new white suit.

Friday afternoon, the opening sermon was by a young minister; introduced to us by our General Baptist President, Dr. John D. Fuller. He was Moderator Darryl McConnell, Pastor of Faith N. Baptist Church, Gibsonville, N.C. His text was Hebrew 11:32—38. His theme was, "Why I Can't Resign." He brought us to our feet

with praise and thanksgiving. He said you just don't resign from God's service. Did not attend Friday night's service.

Saturday morning began with the Ushers Processional. Approx. 150 ushers in full uniform marched inside the church led by our presidents, to the music of "We are Marching to Zion." It was an impressive sight to see.

Dean Charlie Rhodes gave a workshop. HP is a dedicated worker and gave us much information on our duties as ushers: passed out pamphlets to each usher. Dean Rhodes, we are sorry to see you go. You have been a good dean. We are proud of you.

I met two nice ladies at the convention on Sat. morning. I promised to mention their names. They were Sis. Valerie Singleton and Sis. Hattie Eaves, from the Friendship Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C. They were on the campaign committee to help elect Bro. Eaves, Jr. for president. He did win the election and is now our president.

Those attending the Convention from the Western Union Association, Clinton, N.C. was: Bro. Roy Williams, pres. of Western Union Ushers, Bro. Earlie Melvin, Pre. of Mt. Pleasant B Church ushers, and Bro. Larry Crumpler, Pres. of Littlefield Baptist Church ushers. They are dedicated

young men. Littlefield M. Baptist Church held their Ushers Anniversary on the sec-

ond Sunday in July. Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Pastor Leroy Smith, choir, and ushers were our guests. 14 churches represented. Bro. Larry Crumpler is president.

I attended the Woman's Baptist State Convention in Winston Salem, N.C., at the Benton Convention Center July 29 - Aug 1, 2002. Our ushers were at work there. Ms. Anita K. Payne, Member of Union Baptist Church, Dr. Sir Walter Mack, Pastor, Winston Salem, N.C. Ms. Payne is coordinator and trainer for Forsyth County Unified Ushers and Assist. Correspondence Sect. and District Pres. for the Rowan Association, Winston Salem, N.C. District. Her ushers were on duty Tues., Wed., and Thursday at the convention. Ms. Payne, your ushers did well. You are a tireless worker for the Lord and we commend you for a job well done. Keep up the good work Ms. Payne. The Lord wilt Bless You.

Evangelism is nothing more than one beggar telling another beggar to find bread.

Send usher news to: Post Office Box 105
Newton Grove, N.C. 28366

NEW PASTOR'S CORNER



Pastor / Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church
Fayetteville, North Carolina

The Anointing

By Reverend Sandra Holland-Trotter

The Anointing. (Greek. charisma, ointment, anointing)

The anointing is the power of the Holy Spirit effecting eternal changes in our lives. It is the gift of the Holy Spirit as an efficient aid in obtaining knowledge of the truth. It is a vital necessity for any pastor or teacher who wants demonstration and evidence of Kingdom authority.

God is requiring change in this new millennium, change in our lifestyle, change in our relationships, change in

our attitudes and a change in our ministries. Some will like it, some will, not, some will receive it and some will not.

God is calling for a change. We must be willing to change, not for ourselves, but for the one that has anointed us to preach good tidings unto the mock: he has sent us to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to them that are bound. (Isaiah 61:1)

Are you dead to self? Are you willing to receive the sacrificial anointing? Only when you abandon self, and totally empty yourself, can you be filled

with God's presence. If we draw near to God, he will draw near to you. (James 4:8)

In our churches we must have an atmosphere conducive for the Holy Spirit to come in. In our heart we must be willing to seek, to welcome, and to invite the Holy Spirit.

God has decided what our own particular anointing should be. Although not all of us have Jeremiah's anointing, as surely as we have been put into the body of His Son we have this in common: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart. (Jeremiah 1:5) We must accept the limits of our
The Anointing continues on page 22

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Laymen Ends 2001 on a High Note with Its Study Commission



Mr. Romas Hales

The North Carolina State Laymen's League Auxiliary held its final Study Commission session for the year 2001 at the Community Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina on Saturday, December 12th. There were more than 2225 men and boys in attendance.

Brother Jarvis Morgan of Raleigh, North Carolina is the state Laymen's President. In his tenure and under his

leadership, the attendance of the quarterly session has more than quadrupled in the past three years. His cabinet, along with the laymen across the state of North Carolina, has embraced his vision and given him the support needed to grow the North Carolina Laymen's Department and make the necessary progress to enhance the kingdom of God.

Throughout the year, President Morgan has relied on qualified men in key positions to assist him in planning, development and executing the programs and ministries of North Carolina Laymen: John Gladden, 1st VP; Everett Miles, 2nd VP; Theodore David, 3rd VP; Dallas Foster, Chairman of the Study Commission; Henry Holbrook, Youth Director; James Allen, Director of the Mentoring Program; Michael Kendale, Director of the Boy Scouts Program; Nathaniel Daniels, Treasurer and Romas Hales, Field Officer.

The activities that were included in the

final study commission of the year were Executive Session, Devotions, Christian Education Hours, Study Commission Workshop, Youth Program and a dinner to conclude the session.

The North Carolina Laymen's program is so well organized and effective that it has won the approval of the pastors, moderators, and top officers from the parent body. The host pastor for the session, Rev. Percy Chase, could not find enough encouraging and wonderful things to say about the state laymen.

Due to the great work of the laymen and the endorsement of the key pastors in the state, they are being recommended to assist in organizing local groups and chapters in churches where there are none.

President Morgan and his key officers are conducting workshops through the state to help build strong laymen groups and churches. The Study Commission works hops that make them attractive and

sought after:

1. They are interactive, where all participants can participate.
2. They are spiritually oriented, where men can become inspired and motivated to do the greater work for God.
3. They are WORD anchored with fundamentally sound doctrine.
4. The topics are flexible and can be adapted to the needs of the local fellowship or association.

At the close of the 2001 session, President Morgan stated that the new Street Ministry program will receive more support and have more effort and emphasis placed on it.

President Morgan also stated that the North Carolina men will be more closely affiliated with the National Baptist Laymen and a male chorus will be formed to sing at Walter Cade, Jr Southern Regional Workshop coming to Greenville, South Carolina in September 2002.

MEN AND BOYS RETREAT 2002

This year at the GBSC Men and Boys Retreat, we had a great time. The theme for the retreat was "Becoming A Man of Prayer". Our scripture was taken from Matthew 6 chapter verses 5-13. We studied from the book "The Prayer Of Jabez" by Gwen Williams. Along with the classes, we had different kinds of arts and crafts. One was a drawing of a hand with a prayer called "A PRAYER FOR JESUS" each finger was colored differently and each finger represented something different in the prayer you thanked Jesus for (1-family, 2-teachers, 3- president making good choices, 4- sick, 5- help me be the best I can be). Second, the kids made a foamy pin-up that had praying hands on it and a decorative saying: prayer is for the soul what food is for the body. Each boy decorated this. Third each kid was given a blue card. One side had the Lord's Prayer the other side was blank. Each child developed its own prayer using the Lord's Prayer as a guide. During recreation we played checkers, went swimming, and played basketball. On the evening, we had a guest speaker. The first camp Rev. Blackwell from First Baptist Fayetteville

came and spoke on "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me". (Philippians: 4:13) and the second camp our own camp custodian Rev. Harris spoke on "Train up a Child In the Way He Should Go And When He Is Old He Will Not Depart From It." (Proverbs 22:6). After that we had a Bible bowl and then we dismissed and had a watermelon feast and marshmallow roast outside. On the next day we had a talent show and on the first camp our winners were (1) Phillip Lynch (2) James Monroe, (3) Charles Greene. On the second camp our winners were (1) Ibm singing group, (2) Irvin Dowe, and (3) Lee Jones. We all had a great time. I just would like to thank Bro. Hales and all of the executive staff, and all the teachers, cooks and adults who have helped make these last 4 years at the camp a success. Thanks to our support from Bro. Holbrooks for the prizes for the bible bowl and president Morgan for his support. I have enjoyed being your 4th vice president. SEE You Next Year at The CAMP.

4TH vice President GBSC Laymen's League

GREG GABRIEL

SEE PAGE 16 FOR PICTURES OF THE
RETREAT

INSTITUTIONAL & SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman
Jeff Locus, Co-Chairman

2ND ANNUAL CRIME & INCARCERATION CONFERENCE

September 27 - 28, 2002

Federal Correctional Complex - Butner, North Carolina

**ALL GBSC PASTORS ENSURE YOUR CHURCH IS
REPRESENTED!**
(SEE CONFERENCE FLYER)

The purpose of this conference is to bring together church leaders, prison ministry volunteers/organizations, ex-offenders, correctional professionals, lawyers, judges, community organizations and all interested persons to be educated, equipped and inspired to work for both justice and mercy in responding to crime and incarceration. This can be accomplished through serious strategic dialogue and the intentional integration of creative ideas and effective strategies that can help reach, reconcile and restore lives that are impacted by crime and incarceration. All conference attendees will be challenged and inspired as we come together. Our ultimate goal is to glorify God our Father because it was Jesus Christ who reached, reconciled and restored us at the cross and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

The prisons represent the fastest growing mission field in our country and the greatest area of need for divine reconciliation. Lastly, the true test of the Church's power is not how bright we can shine in our nice sanctuaries, but how bright does our light shine in the darkness where it is needed the most. Join us in responding to the crime and incarceration crisis.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Ms. Portia Brandon

Child Abduction DEVELOPING SAFETY AND SECURITY GUIDELINES FOR YOUTH

Help the Youth in your church develop specific guidelines to insure a safe and secure environment at Church, Home, and Community

The FBI makes suggestions to prevent abduction by strangers. They tell parents:

- ~ Do not advertise the family finances or usual routines. Kidnappers often keep a house under surveillance before striking.
- ~ Know what your children are wearing. Don't buy them clothing that advertises their names: They are attention-getters for predators.
- ~ Make certain outside doors, windows and screens are locked before entering.
- ~ Keep the door to the children's room open so unusual noises can be heard. Make sure the child's room is not easily accessible from the outside.
- ~ Never leave children outside playing for a long time without supervision.
- ~ Teach children as early as possi-

ble to call the police.

~ Avoid obvious indications that you are not home, and keep your residence well lighted.

The FBI cautions children:

~ If someone attempts to take you, kick, scream and make as much noise as possible to draw attention.

~ Establish a code word with your parents to be used by people who care for you when they are gone. Refuse rides from anyone not using it.

~ Travel in groups or pairs.

~ Walk heavily traveled streets.

~ Use supervised play areas.

~ Immediately report anyone who annoys you.

~ Never leave home without informing your parents.

FINAL STEWARDSHIP SPEECH

Given By
DR. JASPER P. REED,
PRESIDENT

Congress of Christian Education
General Baptist State Convention
of NC, Inc.

July 17, 2002

Protocol:

To our President, My Dynamic President Dr. Fuller, the Executive Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Logan, Congress Officers past and present. Convention officers past and present, our Host Pastor Rev. Dr. Charles Bullock and this great Church, Auxiliary Officers, Pulpit guests, and my Brothers and Sisters in Christ. It is my joy to greet you in the name of Our Saviour Jesus Christ and to report to you on my stewardship for this my final year in Office.

To you the members of this Convention I want to say thanks

and to let you know that the Congress will always be my burden. I prayerfully hope that we have made a difference in your life. We have used every available means to reach you. Under the guidance of the Spirit we even went Hi-tech to maintain contact with you.

There have been many highlights during our tenure. There is no way we can chronicle them all, They are just too numerous to count. We were glad to be the Administration of record when the National Congress met in Charlotte in 2001. We thank God for leading us to establishing an Oratorical Convention for our Youth, for allowing us to have our Senior winner to present at the National Congress meeting, for inspiring us to expand the Vacation Bible School Clinic series and changing the format of the annual session. Thanks for allowing us the freedom to grow. Unless you were with us you will never know the joy of going to Elizabeth City and being hosted by the St. Stephens Church. There were at least two programs we attempted to introduce to and for the future security of the GHSC. The first was an Educational Advocacy Committee to keep our members abreast of the ever-changing climate of basic education in North Carolina. The second was a Certificate Training Program designed to save the Pastorate of our member Churches by preparing Christian Educators and ministry teams to help the pastor grow the Church.

Had it not been for the hand of God our Father I would not have served as President of the Congress. Note that when the Lord calls us to do something He does not always explain before hand. I am glad because it might have delayed my acceptance. If you will bear with me I will chronicle what I see as the three part call God made to me before and during my tenure. Part one was the call to Attention; part



Dr. Jasper Reed

two was the call to Action, and finally the call to Assessment. Each part had its own introduction.

In retrospect this was my season to be President of the Congress. For sometime before July 1998 the Lord began speaking to me about this burden on my heart and I was acting like Samuel. There was one notable exception there was no Eli for me to nm to. I had to trust and answer the Lord. This went on until the morning I was scheduled to go to the annual session in Fayetteville. I was awoken by the Spirit as usual and serenaded with a very consoling hymn and went back to sleep where I politely over slept. In my rushed to get to the session on time, I recognized the movement of the Hand of God. I was forced to follow a State Trooper all the way to Fayetteville at the posted speed limit. Yet I had time to register, prepare and participate in the opening session of the Congress. It seemed as if God slowed the time down to suit His purpose.

The second part of the call began later that day when I tried to relax. The following morning I was scheduled to preside over the session and the Spirit gave me a scriptural mes-

Final Stewardship continues on page 12

FAITH AND FITNESS



*Dr. Mary D. Jacobs, Project
Coordinator
Faith and Health Initiative*

GBSC FAITH AND HEALTH INITIATIVE UPDATE

The GBSC Faith and Health Initiative is a S.E.L.F.(Smoking, Education, Lifestyle, Fitness) Project funded by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust. The goal of the project is to increase the number of persons practicing healthy lifestyles through dietary patterns, physical activity, and faith and health support. Lay leaders! natural helpers referred to, as Faith and Health Advocates in church congregations will work with their churches to significantly change risk behaviors through initiatives to reduce salt, sugar, and saturated fat; and increase physical activity and exercise. Since people seek help and advice from them, they will spread the word and motivate people to practice good health habits and share with others their efforts to be healthy.

Faith and Health Advocate Training

Thirty-three Faith and Health Advocates (FHA's) and four Faith and Health Initiative Facilitators complet-

ed 30 hours of nutrition, physical activity and faith and health training in July. As a result, they earned 3 continuing education units from Vance-Granville Community College.

FHA's were recruited from 12 churches in four associations: County Line Association, Franklin County Missionary Baptist Association, Middle Baptist Association and United Shiloh Association located in Granville, Franklin, Vance and Warren counties. They are committed to render 72 hours of service per year for a minimum of two years. Their major responsibilities will be to:

+ Organize a Faith and Health Advisory Committee in their respective churches to plan, schedule, organize and carry out faith and health promotion activities.

+ Provide guidance on community resources associated with health and

well-being.

+ Work with church kitchen/food committees and other organized groups to provide low fat, sodium and sugar food choices which include fruits, vegetables and whole grain products at church food events along with education on choices.

+ Work with congregational members and groups to incorporate physical activity and exercise in planned events and activities.

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NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION KICKS OFF 26th YEAR OF CAR GIVE-AWAY

The NKF announced today that the 26th Annual Car Give-Away campaign is underway and in full swing Dialysis Centers from across North Carolina's 70 counties will sell raffle tickets for a brand new Chrysler PT Cruiser. The winner is drawn at random on the final day of the State Fair In October. If you would like to purchase tickets you may stop by the Verizon Wireless store in Charlotte, at 4724 Sharon Road, or you may call Jennifer at the National Kidney Foundation at 800.356.5362.

for \$1, 6 tickets for \$5, and 13 tickets for \$10. The Car Give-Away Campaign is one of the many ways that the National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina raises funds to continue our various programs of research underwriting, organ donation education, and patient services. If you have any questions please feel free to call Jennifer Cronk at the National Kidney Foundation at 800.356.5362.

Ticket prices are as follows: 1 ticket

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Final Stewardship Continued from page 10

sage to be used for the devotional I had to begin my journey in the word for I was not sure where in the word it was. God had a ram in the bush named Diane Newell. After reading it I was left with the question, "What mean ye by these stones?" The answer to this question had to wait another day. O how Satan plays with your mind. I had to exhibit the kind of faith that Isaiah spoke of in 40:28-31.

Please be mindful that I came to the meeting as the Third Vice President seeking, without zeal the Second Vice President. Thanks are to God He had His own agenda. I came asking the Lord to make me a youth director, which is the duty of the Second Vice. The Lord had a different plan. He closed doors that no man could open and opened doors that no man could closed and with His Hand He made me President with a challenge to work for the youth of GBSC. In my joy I said woe unto him who ask the Lord for directions and not be willing to accept and follow them wherever and however they come.

Later as the mantle of this position began to settle upon me I found myself contemplating the meaning of the word stone found in the scripture I was given. I was consumed by the fact that the word stone was plural meaning that this call was extensive and was composed of many segments. One of the first stones revealed that my Presidency was of God and not of man. Therefore I should always maintain a right relationship with God and not just man. Early in my tenure the Spirit spoke to me concerning my leadership style. Lead not by pride, politics or powers but rather let your leadership be of Servant hood. The charge to go forth as found in Acts 1:8 will help you to understand why each of us was ready to serve. In my case you will understand why during the first three years I traveled across the state 11000 plus, 17,000 plus and 13,000 plus miles to carry the mes-

sage that Christian Education was alive and well in the state. Thereafter each programmatic change represented one of the stones found in Joshua 4:6

Then the third part of the call came. With this call I was drawn to the years when I was a young high school student. There I was forced to interact with probably one of the first important American poem written by a mere lad of seventeen-named William Cullen Bryant. The poem is "Thanatopsis." In a scholarly review of the poem Thomas M. Curley describes Thanatopsis as a meditative poem of eighty-two lines granting consolation for human mortality through mankind's unity and nature.

So now at the closure of our tenure, in this quest to impact the GBSC with our concept of Christian Education, we the current administration find ourselves facing a summons. A summons did you say? Summons, a word that strikes fear in the heart of most men. To fully understand what this means we need to look at the definition of this word. it means an official order to appear, a command, message or signal In our case it is a command to cease doing what we are currently involved in as a Congress Administration and to await further instructions.

For us we have to come to grips with having to face an action that is still in the preparatory stages. Most of us still have unfinished business to complete. We have planted seeds that have yet to germinate. For that reason some of us will initially feel empty and incomplete. It might help us to adjust quicker if we knew who issues summons and why. In Psalm 24 the Psalmist speaks to the enormity and the authority of God. Since we belong to Him and the environs we live in belong to Him- He and He alone can and does issue summons to His children. The first thing a summon does is cause one to reflect on their life, their ministry and their

mission. In II Kings 20:1-5, the Lord through Isaiah issued a summons to King Hezekiah. This immediately got his full attention. As with Hezekiah we are on a journey, one in which we do not control from beginning to end. Bryant further depicted other characteristics of a summons clearly in this poem when he said concerning our exit or departure from these offices we hold that "All that breathe will share your destiny." Meaning that everyone and everything will face these same moments at some point in their tenure ship. No one or No thing escapes this process.

Finally let me paraphrase, and insert clarifications in these last nine lines of the poem. "So live that when thy summons comes to join the innumerable caravan which moves to that mysterious realm. Innumerable? Proof that life is a series of unending cycles all facing the same results.

Therefore, I can with joy say Middle District I am on my way home, Shiloh you can reclaim your son who is soaring in the Spirit of having served as President. One who at times felt like the prodigal son in a foreign land. Marian I am coming home to work, with all deliberate speed, on that list you have for me even though it may include two days per week on the beach. Thanks to God who has provided me with a

spiritual and earthly family.

May God bless and keep you, a people that I love. I will return to you if you need me and especially as the Historian of the General Baptist State Convention in October if you vote for me. Goodbye and good studying. Ten-four.

"Money" continued from page 3

house", it is necessary to determine exactly what the "storehouse" is. In biblical times it was a physical place where the Hebrew people would deliver their offerings of grain or animals. A storehouse had specific functions according to God's Word. They are as follows:

To feed the tribe of Levi (Numbers 18:24-29). The tribe of Levi and the priest would be equivalent today to pastors and other church staff, missionaries, and evangelist.

To feed the Hebrew widows and orphans living within the Hebrew cities (Deuteronomy 14:28,29). They would be equivalent to the widows, orphans, the poor and needy served in local churches.

To feed the Gentile poor living in the Hebrew cities (Deuteronomy 14:28,29). Today's equivalent would be the unsaved people living in the community surrounding the local church. Stewardship ministry must reach beyond our local church doors.

Ideally, the local church could serve as the storehouse in God's economy today. Then people's tithes would simply be given to the church. After all, God has designed the church to carry out vital social functions among Christians and non-Christians. These functions also include ministering to the sick, teaching families to care for themselves, and taking the Gospel to the lost at home and abroad. Economic empowerment is new to the church, but Jesus' ministry reached through the religious and secular society.

Would you call a pastor who did not teach, or believe in tithing?

"Money" continues on page 14

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City	State	Zip	Phone
Name			

AUXILIARY NEWS

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. *2nd Trinity Annual Sessions* 52nd Annual Laymen's League 129th Annual Congress of Christian Education 53rd Annual Usher's

Host: Martin Street Baptist Church
Raleigh, North Carolina
Host Pastor: Dr. Charles Bullock
July 15-20, 2002

ELECTION RESULTS

Ushers

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2002-2006

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"Money" continued from page 12

Would you join a church that did not tithe or support ministry?
Why not?

What do you do when the church you attend is not a tithing church and does not support ministry? Share your concerns with the church's leadership in an open, loving manner. If there is no response, prayerfully consider whether this is the church that God wants you to be a part of. If you have fundamental disagreements and concerns about God's work in your church do not fight the preacher; shake the dust off your shoes and move on to a more productive congregation and ministry. God has a place for each person. Do not play with God, the pastor, or the Church!

Giving with the Right Attitude

Like every other facet of serving God, all stewardship giving (including tithe, talent, temple, and time) should be done with the right attitude. When giving is viewed as a rule and done out of a sense of duty, it becomes legalism. But it is not legalistic to give if we do so in thanksgiving to the Lord. We have plenty to be thankful for, including our ability to work. Giving in the hope that you will receive two or three times as much is also a wrong attitude. Romans 11:35 says: "Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again?" If we give only to receive, then we are no better than Simon, described in Acts 8, who offered money to the apostles in

"Money" continues on page 15

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See page 28 insert for more information

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GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION 2002

CHURCH VOTING ELECTION FEE
135th ANNUAL SESSION

CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE OF \$300.00

EACH CHURCH SHALL PAY REGISTRATION FEE
BASED ON POPULATION OF CHURCH - PLEASE SEE GBSC
CONSTITUTION - ARTICLE X.

VOTING MESSENGERS ARE DETERMINED BY GBSC CONSTITUTION ARTICLE X.

EXAMPLE:

CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE	\$300.00
CHURCH VOTING REGISTRATION FEE (BASED ON CHURCH POPULATION ARTICLE X)	\$35.00
church fee of \$35.00 entitles church to 3 voting messengers	
TOTAL	\$335.00

ALL VOTING MESSENGERS WILL RECEIVE A VOTING BADGE
AND KIT

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF GBSC ELECTION
FORMS TO GBSC HEADQUARTERS OCTOBER 21, 2002

* All non-voting messengers shall pay \$10.00 registration fee.

"Money" continued from page 14

hopes of receiving spiritual power. His offer brought a stern rebuke from Peter, who answered, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!"

Another wrong attitude is giving out of fear. Reverence and respect towards God, when tempered with confidence in His love, are signs of spiritual maturity. This is not the kind of fear I refer to. What I warn against is giving because someone has told you that if you do not give, God will punish you. If you give because you feel intimidated, then you are giving under compulsion, which is contrary to what is taught in II Corinthians 9:7.

Never support a ministry that uses threats as a stewardship gimmick. Churches can be full of gimmicks and gadgets as a way of getting people to give. Finally, we should never give to impress others. Matthew 6:2-4, Jesus gave us the following warning: "When therefore you give your alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be honored by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you." People who have a problem with pride need to do their giving in a modest and hum-

ble way. This does not mean that all giving must be done entirely in secret. It simply means that we are not to draw attention to ourselves when we give.

Finally, find a church that is actively engage in the support of Christian ministry, and kingdom building. My own belief runs contrary to what I once heard from a Christian sister who said: "I just give my money to the church, and then I don't care what they do with it." I believe God requires us to be responsible and accountable stewards of the resources he entrust to us. This is what Jesus conveyed to his disciple in the parable of the talents given to the three servants (Matt. 25:14-28). Money sewn in a fruitful ministry field will always render a return.



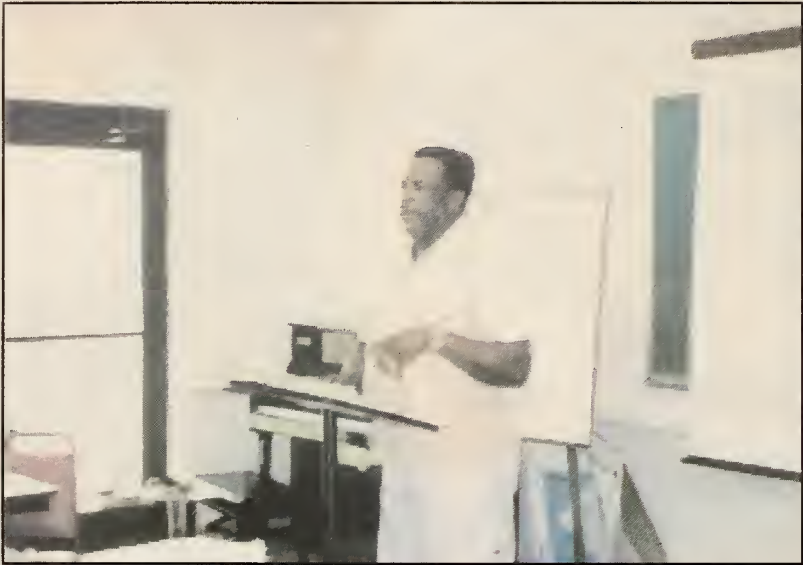
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HIGHLIGHTS



MORE HIGHLIGHTS



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OTHER SEMINAR TOPICS:

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YOUTH CORNER

Trust For Youth

By DELORES GRIFFEY

Young People will be the adults of the future. The success of our families, and our churches will rest firmly upon their shoulders. Unless they are trained in the things of God, the future of nation will indeed be in jeopardy. Only through the understanding of the Word of God, wilt they be equipped to carry in the future.

1. REJOICE IN THE DAYS OF THY YOUTH.

Ecc1. 1 1:9-10, "9 Rejoice, O young man, thy youth: and let thy heart cheer

thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, end in the sight of thine eyes; but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment 10 Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity." It is right and proper for Young People to rejoice and enjoy life, as long as they do this without committing evil. Remember that God will bring sin into judgment *Ecc1. 12:14, "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."*

2. REMEMBER THY CREATOR IN THE DAYS OF THY YOUTH.

Ecc1. 12:1, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them:"

1 Sam. 2:26, "And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men."

Lam. 3:27, "It is good for men that he bear the yoke in his youth."

3. RESPECT GOD'S TRUTH AND WALK IN IT.

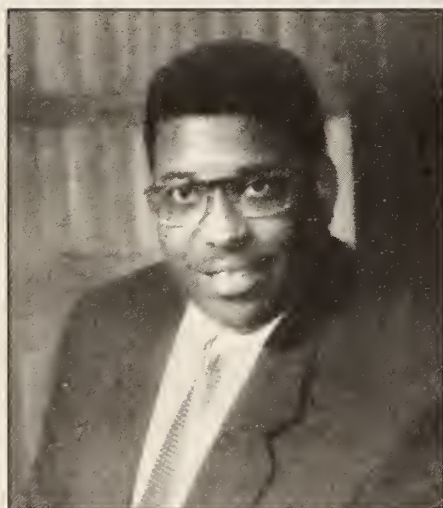
Prov. 3:1-4, "I My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my com-

mandments: 2 For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add thee. 3 Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; and them upon the table of thine heart. So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. "Psa. 119:93, "I will never forget thy precepts: For with them thou hast quickened me." "Psa. 119:11, 'Thy word have I hid mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

4. TRUST IN THE LORD AND H

Trust Continues on Page 20

THE MINISTER'S COUNCIL



Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch, President

Greetings in the matchless name of our risen Christ. God's blessings continue to unfold within our midst. The GBSC Ministers' Council continues in our efforts to provide strength, support, and enrichment to the clergy of this great convention and region of our nation. It is our prayer that the information that has been provided through these articles has been a benefit to your ministries.

This month's emphasis will continue to focus on the minister's personal library. One book that is highly recommended is:

Make Room for the Boom... or Bust: 6

Church Models for Reaching Three Generations

By Gary L. McIntosh

{Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI 1997} ISBN 0-8007-5614-2

Gary McIntosh is associate professor of practical theology and the director of the Doctor of Ministry program at Talbot School of Theology. An experienced church consultant, has analyzed more than 500 churches in 53 denominations and has conducted more than 130 workshops dealing with the topic of church growth. He is currently the president of the American Society for Church Growth and the editor of the *Church Growth Network* newsletter and *The Journal of American Church Growth*.

In 1989 Dr. McIntosh founded the Church Growth Network, a consulting firm that assists churches to reach their greatest effectiveness in finding, keeping, and building people. The *Church Growth Network* conducts individual church consultations with specialization in the areas of generational change, analysis of church health, and five year planning. For complete information, contact Dr. McIntosh at: *The Church Growth Network*, 3630 Camellia Dr., San Bernardino, CA 92404 (909) 882-5386.

In this great work Dr. McIntosh continues to show that he is on the cutting edge of generational studies. This book is now only descriptive, but it is prescriptive as well. It is refreshingly different. More than analyzing the bewildering generational changes in our society.

This book actually presents modes of how churches have responded to the challenge. Of the six models presented, one will fit your church. Implementing the implications of this book will accelerate its impact and effectiveness. Change is a scary term for everyone, you this book will help you walk through the process.

The chapters are as follows:

Over the Hill to Grandma's House
Take my BMW. Please
Generation X - Cellent
The Choice of a New Generation
The Seeker - Centered Model
A Look as a Seeker Centered Church: Pastor Tim Celek
The Seeker - Sensitive Mode!
A Look at a Seeker— Sensitive Church: Pastor David Page
The Blended Model
A Look at a Blended Church: Tim Ellis, Worship Ares Pastor

The Multiple Track Model
A Look at a Multiple — Track Church: Dr. Glen Martin
The Satellite Model
A Look at a Satellite Church: Pastor Sam Williams
The Rebirth Model
A Look at a Rebirthed Church Pastor Jim Meyer
Remodeling Your Church

Ingenious yet basic, this book is full of the information needed to give a minister a boost in his/her own development. Keep this valuable resource under your arm as you get ready to grow.

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NEWS

Poteat Scholars

duating on May 20, 2002 was the class of General Baptist William is Poteat Scholars: Ms. Ashley dy who graduated with honors, Ms. Candice Mathis.

ers who have graduated with the eral Baptist Poteat Scholar dis- tion were Mr. Stacy Smallwood Ms. Shenika Watlington who uated Cum Laude, and Ms. Kala kwell in 2001; Ms. Lebbonee e who graduated with honors in 0; Ms. Tenika Rudisell who grad- d Cum Laude in 1999; and Ms. acia Gibbs who graduated Cum de, and Mr. T. C. Chestnutt in 8.

year 13 persons applied For the eral Baptist Poteat Scholarships ng the Poteat Scholarship ppetition this year, the highest



Ms. Carol Smith
Associate Editor

number of applicants we have had. This year, there were six applicants, three of whom were interviewed.

High Point Educational and Missionary Association, Inc. Convenes

ported by Mrs. Mattie Walker

The Eight General Session, and 113th Session of the High Point ucation and Missionary ociation Inc. convened at Mt. mel Missionary Baptist Church 0 Heitman Dr. ,Winston-Salem, ., July 21-July 26,2002. Host or

A.T. Griffin, III. Moderator Dr. J.T. Walker opened convention by invoking the "Holy rit "of God to be the Head dership of the convention, and it s so. From the beginning to the ing, (six days) of worship, praise, aching, teaching, learning, but still e for enjoyment.

Youth and Children's Trac 2002 istered 1347 young people from ir. Association churches, and 172

youths gave their lives to Jesus Christ. The participants performed dramatics, Journalism, dance and music, crafts, storytelling and a choir of many voices.

The adult delegation registration exceeded 600, with workshops according to needs and intellect. Some of the instructors and personalities were: Mr. Mitchell Alston, Central Children Home, Rev. Odell Beasley, Funeral Services, Mrs. Portia Brandon, Christian Education.(GBSC), Mr. Charles Fletcher, President, Usher's Convention(GBSC), Minister Pamela Holder, Chairperson Minister's Wives and Widows, (WBHFM), Dr. Leonzo Lynch, Minister's Council, (GBSC), Mrs. Carrie Robinson , Rn., Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, Ms. Debra Shabazza, Director of Sales/Marketing,(SCB, Inc.). Area Lay-persons, Pastors and Ministers Assisted in classes also.

The Convention carried an sir of "Revival and Praise" giving God the Glory. For all things done. We know What The Mind Conceive, It Can Be Achieved.

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Rev. Marvin Clowney, Moderator

MORE NEWS

"Trust" Continues from page 18 WILL DIRECT THY PATH

Prov. 3:5-6, "5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Isa. 26:3, 'Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.'

5. THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM.

Prov. 9:10-11, "10 Th. fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. 11 For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased."

Prov. 15:33, "The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility."

6. FOOLS DESPISE INSTRUCTION IN KNOWLEDGE.

Prov. 1:7, 22, 7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. 22 How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?"

Psa. 119:101, "I have retrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word."

7. FOR YOUR OWN BENEFIT, LISTEN TO PARENTAL INSTRUCTION.

Prov. 1:8-9, "8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck."

Prov 4:1-4, "1 Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. 2 For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. 3 For I was my fathers son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. 4 He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live."

"II Tim. 3:15, "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

8. DO NOT DESPISE CHASTENING OR CORRECTION FROM GOD OR FROM PARENTS.

Heb. 12:5-11, "5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him; 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. 7 If ye endure

chastening, God dealeth with you, as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. 11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."

9. THE PERSON WHO HATES CORRECTION IS FOOLISH.

Prov. 15:5, "A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent."

Prov. "Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish."

Prov. 2:10-11, "10 When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; 11 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:"

Pray. 5:12-13, '12 And say, How have

I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof; 13 And have obeyed the voice of my teachers, inclined mine ear to them instructed me!"

10. DO NOT IGNORE REPROOF AND CORRECTION.

Prov. 15:31-33, "31 The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise. 32 He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: he that heareth reproof getteth understanding. 33 The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, and before honour is humility."

Prov. 19:20, "Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end."

Prov. 8:33, "Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not."

11. TRUE LOVE REQUIRES THAT THERE BE DISCIPLINE AND CORRECTION.

Heb. 12:6, "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."

Prov. 13:24, "He that spareth his son, but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes."

Oratorical Contest Continued from page 19

JUNIOR DIVISION

1 st	BRITTANY SMITH First Baptist Church Dr. Dumas Harshaw, Pastor Raleigh, NC 27610	WAKE COUNTY ASSO. Dr. Paul Anderson, Moderator
2 nd	BYRON COGDELL Falling Run Baptist Church Dr. Leonard Faison, Pastor 734 Ashburton Drive Fayetteville, NC 28301	MIDDLE DISTRICT ASSO.
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Dr. Henry Jones, Moderator

NATIONAL BAPTIST CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Rules for the Undergraduate Scholarship
Oratorical Contest

2003 ORATORICAL CONTEST THEME:

"Stir Up the Gift of God in Me"

II Timothy 1:5, 6, 7.

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE NEWS

The Role of Grandma Bethel

By Earl Horton,

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care
Ministry
Director of Public Relations

There was a great woman in my life she practically raised everyone in my family that would include her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, cousins, nephews and nieces. I took in children that were not in the family when their parents did not want anything to do with them. She became our new family. This woman raised us like we were her own children. She instilled in us values, family and Christian values. A lady who I called my great-grandmother really made me feel special because I was like her special little baby. "She is the reason of me being called 'Baby Earl'". My great-grandmother loved all of us but at times she gave us that so-called tough love that we needed with bring-out that ever so popular "switch". Being the favorite great grandchild I never received the switch and I am glad that she did not get me. That brought back so many memories. I would go on forever about my Great-grandmother Bethel. Unfortunately, my creator called her home two years ago at the age of 100 years of age. What she did with my family and other people in the African American community was the concept of Kinship Care.

Today kinship care is increasing among people who are caring for relative's children in their own families. Commonly, it is grandparents who step in to fill the shoes of a son, daughter or other family members too overwhelmed with problems whether it is personal or financial to being a nurturant parent.

According to the National Adoption Information Clearinghouse, alternatives other than their parents are

raising more than 1.3 million American children. The number of grandparents raising their grandchildren has increased by 40 percent in the last decade.

You might ask the question "does the Department of Social Services play a role in kinship care"? It all depends. Informally, family members decide that a child will live with a selected relative and no child agency is involved. Formally, a child agency retains legal custody of a child while a relative raises him or her. The agency is involved initially for the child's care but does not assume legal responsibility.

The Child Welfare League of America in Washington, D.C., defines kinship parents of having the responsibilities of: 1) Protect, nurture, and care of their kin children for a temporary or extended period of time. 2) Make sure that the children's needs are met. 3) Return the children to their birthparents when the time is right. 4) Establish a plan to connect the children to a safe, stable, nurturing relationships intended to last a lifetime, when they are not unified with their birthparents. Child protection agencies are turning to relatives to care for the children in their custody. These days' agencies are considering family first when placing a child in a foster home or adoptive home.

For African Americans, traditionally the community would respond when parents could not take care of their child. It is common for to see a grandmother caring for her grandson, an aunt caring for her niece, or a neighbor taking in a child from the community. From this concept "It takes a Village to Raise a Child" comes from.

When children are removed from their parents' home, they suffer physiologically and emotionally. When relatives are able to fill the gap, the effect is not that severe than it would be if they were in a traditional foster home. Children would feel comfortable with their surroundings and people they know and trust will comfort them. By

children staying with their family they are less likely to experience the numerous moves that children in foster care with non-relatives frequently experience.

Children who stay with their family may have a better chance of having contact with the birthparents. Parents still could to some extent raise their children by calling, visiting, or participating in family events. Ultimately, it is up to the relatives who would spread the love and responsibility of raising these children.

The popular saying "Blood runs thicker than water" is certainly the case with kinship care. These families have taken the responsibility to raise their next generation. These families want to make certain that their family continues from generations to come.

If interested in adoption and foster care or would like to know more information about the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry please call (919) 821-7066 or write to GBSC Headquarters attn: Earl Horton 603 South Wilmington St. Raleigh, NC 27601.

**SEE PAGE 25 FOR
ADOPTION KIDS**



By Earl Horton
(pictured above)
GBSC Adoption & Foster Care Ministry - Director of
Public Relations

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

Attends National Adoption & Foster Care Conference

By Earl Horton,

The Reverend Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations, Jo-Ellen Paige, Field Coordinator and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry attended the North American Council of Adoptable Children Conference (NACAC) that was held in Chicago, Illinois on *Nat. Adoption & Foster Care cont. on pg 25*



NACAC Conference: Left to right: Reverend Wilbert Talley (Virginia One Church, One Child), Jo-Ellen Paige (GBSC), Joe Kroll (NACAC), Reverend Anthonette Wright (GBSC), Pierre Cooper (One Church, One Child-Pennsylvania) and Addie Hudson (Illinois One Church, One Child)

The Anointing continued from page 8

anointing and remain obedient King Saul was given a special anointing. He had a lively anointing that indicated God's approval, but abused it and became yesterday's man overnight. (R.T. Kendall) In other words, Saul became irrelevant. A has-been. Until that happened he was today's man the man of the hour. King Saul moved outside his anointing and assumed the prerogatives of a priest. (I Samuel 13:9-14) Saul promoted himself to an anointing that was not his anointing.

By taking himself too seriously and Letting his success and stature go to his head, Saul moved outside the limit of his anointing and God did not condone it.

What happened to Saul could happen to you or I. Many have abused it indeed, brought disgrace and left many sincere Christians bewildered. We should never abuse this precious gift.

Some of Jesus' followers need a new anointing. People who have been in church for a while will grow stiff and starchy. Many of us have a need of an oil change, a fresh filling of the

Holy Spirit Just as oil dries up and evaporates, we need a fresh. fellowship with the Holy Spirit, which will produce fresh oil and a fresh anointing.

A fresh anointing will mend what has been torn, heal what has been wounded, fix what has been broken, it will resurrect your spirit, restore your joy, renew your mind, revitalize your body and redeem your soul.

Slow down!!! Most of us are too busy doing busy work. Take the time to smell the sweet aroma of the Holy Spirit.

Take the time to listen to that small still voice.

The voice that called you out of the darkness into the marvelous light.

The voice of the spoken word that will be a tight unto your path and a lamp unto your feet.

The voice that spoke the words, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

The voice that says I am your God and you are my people!

Get ready for your fresh anointing!

Resist the attraction to "free trial offer"

By Attorney General Roy Cooper

"Your money back if you aren't completely satisfied."

We've all heard that phrase included in a sales pitch at one time or another. Money-back guarantees sound very attractive to consumers. But don't part with your hard-earned money just because you think you can easily get a refund. To learn why you should be cautious, consider the case of magnetic mattress pad and seat cushion dealers.

These products first came to our attention a couple of years ago via consumer complaints. Most of the complaints came from senior citizens who tried a mattress pad in the hopes that it would help with back pain or other ailments. "It sounded like it

might work," one reported, "and they told me I could get my money back if it didn't."

Many of these consumers got a postcard in the mail inviting them to a free meal at a local restaurant if they were willing to listen to a sales presentation. During the sales pitch, the dealers praised the magic powers of magnetic mattress pads and seat cushions, which they claimed could cure a host of ills from arthritis to diabetes.

These elderly consumers, who were more likely to be under treatment for health problems and looking for relief than other consumers, were pressured to buy on the spot. They were told that if they didn't purchase immediately they would lose out on special discounts. The dealers said that the magnetic mattress pad came with a full money-back guarantee after a 90-to-110 day trial.

For many consumers who might

"Resist" Continues on page 24

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| 04. Burn Up Or Burn Out For God | 59. A Man On A Mission/The Borrowed A |
| 05. Busted Britches From Straddling The Fence | 60. Busy In God's Business |
| 06. Dangerous Minds | 61. That's Just Like Mama |
| 07. Don't Even Think About It | 62. He's Alive And I Am Glad About It |
| 08. Fired Up By The Holy Ghost | 63. What The World Needs Now Is Love Sweet Love |
| 09. Are You Full Of The Stuff | 64. I Moved From My Old House And My Old Friends |
| 10. Let's Get On Board | 65. I Just Want To Know Why |
| 11. God Picked Me To Be On His Side | 66. What Do You Do When Life Is Not Fair |
| 12. Grace On The Race | 67. Why Do Bad Things Happen To Good People |
| 13. Grow Up Or Blow Up | 68. What Do You Do When Your Brook Runs Dry |
| 14. Hang In There | 69. Diagnosis From Dr. Jesus, Go And See The Dr. |
| 15. He Lifted Me Up Out Of The Miry Clay | 70. Who Is This Man |
| 16. Look Where The Lord Has Brought Me From | 71. What Would Jesus Do |
| 17. If My People | 72. If I Could But Touch The Hem Of His Garment |
| 18. We Can Do It For A New Day Has Come | 73. Come See A Man Twenty-One (21) Ne Sermons |
| 19. I Know What Prayer Can Do | 74. Wounded By The Ones You Love |
| 20. Put Some Clothes On Child | 75. How To Stand In The Storms Of Life |
| 21. A Right Thing In A Wrong Time | 76. Don't Quit |
| 22. The Man Who Had Everything But The Right Thing | 77. Speak To Me Lord Jesus |
| 23. Soap For The Soul | 78. Get Behind Me Satan |
| 24. Stay On The Lord's Side | 79. Good Things Happen When Jesus Shows Up |
| 25. If You Take One Step He'll Take Two | 80. Where Are You? Adam |
| 26. Stepping In Your Own Mess | 81. Committed Because I Am Submitted |
| 27. I Can't Lose With The Stuff I Use | 82. Are You A Disciplined Disciple |
| 28. You Can't Touch This | 83. Answering God's Call |
| 29. Warm In A Cold Situation | 84. Too Blessed To Be Stressed |
| 30. That's The Way He Died But That's Not The End Of The Story | 85. Thrilled By His Will |
| 31. What You See Is What You Get | 86. These Things Only Come By Prayer and Fasting |
| 32. What's Faith Got To Do With It | 87. Just Like Daddy |
| 33. You Can't Make It Without God | 88. I Got Two Wing And The World Can't Do Me No Harm |
| 34. I Just Want To Say... "Thank You Lord" | 89. The Prayer Of Jabez |
| 35. A Heart Like Thine | 90. I Will Meet You On The Other Side |
| 36. Just A Closer Walk With Thee | 91. Can't Come Right Now, I Am On Duty |
| 37. Give Me A Clean Heart So I Can Serve You | 92. What A Mighty God We Serve |
| 38. What Ever The Problem God Has The Answer | 93. When Life Makes You Wonder |
| 39. Peace - In The Midst Of My Storm | 94. Fighting Mad |
| 40. I Am On The Right Road, Now! | |
| 41. A Good Man In A Bad Situation | |
| 42. Good Medicine For A Bad Ailment | |
| 43. Stand Up And Testify | |
| 44. Bad Boys! What You'll Going To Do When He Comes For You | |
| 45. Angels Just Keep Watching Over Me | |
| 46. Go Ahead! Make My Day | |
| 47. A Trip To The Cross | |
| 48. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! He Is Somebody's Preacher | |
| 49. On The Day Of Pentecost | |
| 50. Jesus Is All That! And A Whole Lot More | |
| 51. Muddy Putty In The Potters Hands | |
| 52. When Stress Controls You Jesus Consoles You | |
| 53. Black Men And Women, Changing A Generation | |
| 54. I Am Black But I Am Somebody | |
| 55. Staying Afloat In A Sinking Boat | |
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The Federal Correctional Complex is easily located just (15 minutes) outside of Durham, N. C. on Old N.C. Highway 75. The small towns of Butner and Creedmoor are within minutes of the complex. Detailed directions are available by contacting Michael R.

Smith, Sr., OISM Chairman at 919 575-4541 ext.4300 or mrsmith@bop.gov.

This complex is made up of four all male federal correctional facilities that house a combined population of approximately 3500 men of all custody levels. The Federal Complex Training Center at the entrance of the complex will be where registration and most of the training sessions will be held.

IMPORTANT NOTICES!!!!

***ALL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES THAT WANT TO ATTEND ANY OF THE EVENTS WITHIN THE INSTITUTIONS MUST BE CLEARED THROUGH THE NCIC SECURITY CHECK PROCESS PRIOR TO START OF THE CONFERENCE. YOU CAN REQUEST A NCIC FORM FROM GBSC HEADQUARTERS OR MICHAEL R. SMITH, SR. AND FAX OR MAIL IT BACK. THE DEADLINE FOR ALL NCIC FORMS WILL BE SEPTEMBER 20, 2002. (SEE FLYER FOR CONTACT INFORMATION)**

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***ALL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES THAT WANT TO ATTEND ANY EVENTS WITHIN THE INSTITUTIONS MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE AND MUST BRING A VALID ID, NORMALLY YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE.**

***NO PERSONAL ITEMS WILL BE ALLOWED INSIDE THE INSTITUTIONS EXCEPT YOUR BIBLE.**

DRESS CODE

***THE DRESS CODE FOR THE ENTIRE CONFERENCE IS CASUAL. ALL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES SHOULD WEAR CASUAL CLOTHING AND COMFORTABLE SHOES DUE TO WALKING AROUND COMPLEX.**

***WOMEN SHOULD NOT WEAR HALTER TOPS, TIGHT OR REVEALING CLOTHING, MINI SKIRTS. SEE THROUGH CLOTHING OR ANYTHING THAT CAN BE CONSIDERED REVEALING OR OUT OF PLACE IN A PRISON CONTEXT. STRONGLY DISCOURAGE WEARING OF HIGH HEEL SHOES. NO LARGE POCKET BOOKS OR HATS WILL BE ALLOWED. NO EXCESSIVE OR EXPENSIVE JEWELRY OR COSMETICS. NO BRIEF CASES OR LARGE BAGS OF ANY KIND.**

***EVERYONE PLAN TO TRAVEL AS LIGHT AND COMFORTABLE AS POSSIBLE AROUND THE COMPLEX. REMEMBER THIS IS A FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL AND PRISON ENVIRONMENT, NOT THE CIVIC CENTER!**

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR SPECIAL CONCERNS CALL MICHAEL R. SMITH, SR., OISM CHAIRMAN AT 919 575-4541 EXT. 4300.

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GBSC Headquarters - Attn: Carol Smith

Office - 800 639-GBSC Email cjsmith@gbsc.org

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USHER'S NEWS

Kenansville Eastern Missionary Baptist Association

Southern Division

Ushers' Banquet

KEMBA Ushers

Southern Division

Banquet Theme:

*"The Challenge Is Still The
Same, Reach The Masses"*

*"Ushering, A Ministry of
Service, A Ministry of Joy"*

Presiding - Deacon Roy L. Johnson,
Jr. Processional - Officers and New
Faith Ensemble Opening Selection -
"The Star Spangled Banner"

Ushers' Psalm - Led by Sis. Carolyn
Merritt Prayer Deacon Charles
Faison, Vice president of the
Northern Division of Ushers
Memorial - Rev. Toublefield,

President, North Division

Pledge - Deacon Archie J. Lofton
President of the Southern Division of
Ushers Welcome - Sis. Virginia Troy,
Corresponding Secretary
Occasion and Purpose - Sis. Carlene
Carol Mini Concert - New Faith
Ensemble

By this time, it was time for Dinner.
Our Moderator, Reverend James, gave
the Grace. A. Davis. Archie Lofton,
our beloved president introduced our
speaker. Our speaker was none other
than Deacon Charles Fletcher,
President of the Ushers Convention.
He spoke from Hebrews 12:1 Isaiah
40 and Psalm 40. While he was speak-
ing he had everyone's attention. He
did a grand job. You could see the look
on the preachers and ministers' faces
that they were enjoying what he was
saying. He was really giving the Word.
By the way, he is a Deacon in
Bethlehem Missionary Baptist
Church, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Deacon Roy Johnson was in charge
of this Banquet. He said President
Lofton called him and asked if he

needed help and he told him to stay in
Wilmington until the night of the ban-
quet, then come Saturday, June 22, at
6:00 p.m. When he could come,
Deacon Johnson did something I real-
ly did like. He got youth ushers from
various churches and that's what I call
teaching in the ministry. When he
asked me for two youth a hers, I said
give me a minute and called him right
back and I laughed and said I was a
minute man. He told that to the audi-
ence also. It was a great night, filled
with the Spirit of the speaker and from
the great singing of the ensemble.
They are great; you should hear them
sing, "The Train, and Rev. Dwight
Davis, Minister of Music; it seems like
the piano starts playing before he sits
down to play and what makes it so
good, they are saved. Oh, what a
blessing!

The Southern Division should take
a good look at themselves and say self
you are not doing the Christian way.
Do unto others as you would have
them do unto you. They really turned
out with us. Our colors were lavender
and white. I will not and cannot go any

further without saying someth-
ing about the food. It was scrumptious.
Johnson's All Occasion Serv-
catered it. If you are planning to have
food catered, they are the best. You
not have to go for your desert; it
came to your table with it and served
you. Sis provided corsages and bu-
tinieres. Ruth Alderman. Deacon
Arnold Moore was the videographer.
The Utility Committee was comprised
of Deacon Roy Johnson, Deacon
George Brown, Deacon Leroy Shivers,
Sis. Pearlle Crews, Sis. Carolyn
Merritt, Sis. Ruth Johnson.

Oh yes, the catering company
the bulletins also. After we were en-
tertained and certainly pleasantly fed,
had closing remarks by Vice President
Johnson and Special Recognition
President Lofton. Moderator James
Davis gave the Benediction.

P.S. This Banquet was the best yet.
This one was superb!

James Otis Sampson, Reporter
First Missionary Baptist Church

"Resist" Continued from page 22

have been skeptical about the health
benefits of magnets, or who were
reluctant to make a quick decision, the
money-back guarantee eased their
doubts.

But when the trial period ended and
the consumers were dissatisfied with
their purchases, in many cases they
found that the company had gone out
of business and there was little chance

they'd ever see a refund.

There are a few simple steps you can
take to make sure this doesn't happen
to you:

- **Research the company before you buy.** Resist pressure sales tactics. Check with my office to find out if we have received any consumer complaints about the company.

- **If you decide to purchase, pay by credit card.** This gives you more remedies if the seller goes out of business or if the sale was obtained by fraud.

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• High School Band Block Show and more.....

This event is FREE....No Registration Costs....Lunch Provided! 1st come and share this time of information, fellowship and fun!

*For more information contact: Cathy Jones @ (704) 537-6197 or the church office @ (704) 392-0392. www.fmh-charlotte.org Servants Affirming God's Word Globally...Forward Together

Introducing Jessica and Rosalyn

Jessica and Rosalyn are very athletic and enjoy playing a variety of sports. Softball is their favorite and they both play on their school team as well as a community team. The girls also have fun swimming, roller blading and riding their bikes.

Closer Look at Jessica

Jessica is a sociable girl who enjoys having her friends over to spend the night. She laughs easily and loves to talk. Jessica gets along well with everyone and often shows her foster mother affection by doing extra household chores. Besides softball, Jessica runs track and she likes to dance. She likes school and is eager to learn. Although she has a learning disability and is mildly mentally retarded, Jessica has made the A/B honor roll in her specialized classroom. Her foster mom and foster worker are pleased with the positive turn in her attitude and conduct. Jessica needs to be encouraged to always tell the truth and she needs to learn not to give her things away. Birthday: July 28, 1987

Closer Look at Rosalyn

Rosalyn is quieter than her sister, although her foster worker says she is a pleasant girl. She loves to talk and is rarely reluctant to say what she thinks. Rosalyn loves to spend time with her foster mom whether it's

shopping or just talking and joking around. While she sometimes squabbles with her sister, Rosalyn is never disrespectful to her foster mom or other adults. She likes to watch TV, go to movies and listen to popular music. Rosalyn has a good memory, but she has difficulty reading. She also has a learning disability and attends a specialized classroom where she has improved in math. Rosalyn has also made her school's special A/B honor roll. Rosalyn needs to pay closer attention to instructions and directions. She also needs to remember to always tell the truth. Birthday: June 15, 1988

A Family for Jessica and Rosalyn

Jessica and Rosalyn need a patient, loving family that is familiar with their special needs. They are both loving and warm young ladies who would do well with a two-parent family or a single mom. Jessica and Rosalyn have participated in recruitment activities to help them find a stable, supportive and nurturing permanent home. (NC #092-138) (NC # 0 9 2 - 1 3 9) For more information on these children, or adoption in general, please call the NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care Network's toll free Hotline at 1-877-NCKIDS-1 (1-877-625-4371).



Jessica and Rosalyn

A Fresh Look at the New Testament Deacon

by John H. Walker, D. Min.

NOW AVAILABLE!

There is a critical problem concerning the Deacons and the local church, state and national conventions. The Deacons are assuming leadership roles without being equipped for the task of leadership. The relationship between the pastor and deacons is widening because there is a misunderstanding concerning the mission of the church, pastoral leadership, and the role of the deacons.

This book is a must tool to bridge the gap between the role of Pastor and Deacons in order to provide EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP.

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Dr. John H. Walker, D. Min. : Office Phone (704) 334-5255 Email: John.H.Walker@ncadoptionandfoster.org

Nat. Adoption & Foster Care cont. from p21

North American Council of Adoptable Children Conference (NACAC) that was held in Chicago, Illinois on August 1st-4th.

The conference is regarded as one of the best informative conventions in the country about Adoption and Foster Care. Social Workers, families, and the faith community from all over the United States attended this event. The conference was divided into several interest areas that attendees could choose from. The interest areas included advanced therapeutic techniques, parenting, kinship care, recruiting permanent families, supporting children and preparing parents for adoption.

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry attended an awards luncheon on Friday. The NACAC awards were given to special individuals and groups that have given outstanding service and accomplished achievements in the area of adoption and foster care. The award winners have spent years of providing invaluable service to children and to families. The luncheon also provided an opportunity to meet other attendees of the conference.

The One Church, One Child organization presented a seminar on Saturday afternoon. The chapters from Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Illinois shared responsibilities for the seminar. They gave an excellent seminar about recruiting in the faith community and how their organization works to provide families from area churches for children in the child welfare system. The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care ministry had the opportunity to meet the representatives from One Church, One Child organizations and instantly began a relationship with them. We had the opportunity to meet again the Reverend Wilbert Talley from One Church, One Child of Virginia. He will be the speaker for our upcoming Adoption and Foster Care Seminar in Greenville, NC on October 12th.

The NACAC conference provided valuable knowledge that will certainly be tied into our ministry's recruitment efforts. The NACAC conference will move further north to the beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada August 7-9 2003.

ELECTION NEWS

Election 135th Annual Session GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM

DR. JOHN D. FULLER, SR., PRESIDENT GBSC DR. ARCHIE D. LOGAN, JR., EXECUTIVE
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After prayerful and deliberate consideration, am submitting my name as a candidate forth. Third Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention Inc.

A native of Rockingham, North Carolina, I preached my initial sermon at the Providence Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Robert T. Gilchrist. I have also assisted the late Reverend Doctor J.H. Ferguson at the Poplar Spring Baptist Church in Rockingham, North Carolina.

At age nineteen (19) I was called to the Mount Peace Baptist Church the former Halifax Baptist Church as the Pastor. I have served this one Pastorate for more than 19 years.

I am married to Faye V. Terry; we are the parents of two children, Fallen and J. Vincent, Jr.

I have led our church to support the objective of the General Baptist State Convention. Our stewardship is a witness to our commitment. I am First Vice Moderator of the Johnston District Baptist Association

I am committed to higher education. I am a product of Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School I look forward to many years of service through the, General Baptist State Convention.

Until He Comes,

J. Vincent Terry, Sr. Pastor

Dr. A.T. Griffey, III announce candidacy for the office of Statistician of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc.

He is the Pastor of Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, NC and the Pentecostal Lighthouse Baptist Church of Kernersville, NC. Dr. Griffey served the Convention as Interim Editor for 6 years and served in the field to spread the GBSC message.

Dr. Griffey serves on Executive Board of the High Point Educational and Missionary Baptist Association, Inc. Director of Christian Education and Second Vice President of the High Point Association Congress of Christian Education. Pastor Griffey also serves the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc. as the managing editor of the Lantern and teacher "The Computer As A Ministry Tool"

He is married to Delores (Dee) Griffey, they have one son Dedrick, daughter-in-law Megan and three grandchildren Dedrick, Desirae and Savanna.

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ECCLESIASTES 3: 4 "... AND A TIME TO LAUGH..."



Minister Alcindor Hankins
Gospel Comedian
405 Creekbluff Drive
Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina 27526
(919) 557-1227
 alcindor9@hotmail.com

Psalms 46:10 "Be Still and Know That I am God"
"He's More God Than I Ever Need"

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SECOND CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
114 NELSON AVENUE
CHARLOTTE, NC 28216

**Second Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a full time pastor to
 serve as spiritual leader, teacher and counselor for her congrega-
 tion. Finalist for this position must meet the following qualifica-
 tions:**

- o Born-again licensed, ordained minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- o Knowledge of Baptist doctrine, practices polity
- o BA degree from an accredited institution of higher learning
- o Senior Pastor for at least four to five years
- o Good administrative and communication skills
- o Ability to communicate with all age groups especially the youth
- o Leadership experience developing or administering youth programs and community service
- o Willingness to affiliate at the national, state and local Baptist conventions and
- o Present location within five hours driving tin from Charlotte
- o Willingness to submit to a police and credit check

Resumes for persons meeting these qualifications should be sent the Pulpit Search
 Committee at the address shown above. Resume deadline date is September 19, 2002

MODERATOR OF MODERATORS NEWS



By Reverend James W. Smith, JD
(pictured above)
Moderator of Moderators

LEGAL ISSUES CONFRONTING CHURCHES

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

This month I want to highlight & list of issues that our churches are dealing with on a regular basis. Many times we are not conscience of these issues and often proceed with business as

usual until we run into a brick wall.

1. When is the last time that your church has had a fire drill and you have large exit signs displayed? On this issue, you may want to check with the fire department or public safety to ascertain what your church needs to do.

2. Do your church have posted caution and warning signs at places that may

present a danger to members and the general public? It is very important to inform members and the general public of places and matters that may be of danger to them. Failure to do so could subject the church to liability.

3. Are staff members and employees of your church performing their duties in ways that constitutes negligence? Your church needs to know that failure of staff or employees to do something that should be done or doing something that should not be done may constitute negligence. If an employee or staff member of your church is deemed to be negligent; then, his or her action may be imputed to the church and such negligence may result in the church being liable, financially. A legal workshop involving and don'ts of the staff and employees may be helpful to your church.

4. Is your pastor aware of his professional, ministerial and ethical responsibilities and duties to his parishioners? The pastorate is just like a doctor/patient or a lawyer/client relationship. Yours is a pastor/pew relationship. Please be aware that whatever is told to the pastor in confidence must go with him/her to the grave; unless, permission is given to divulged the information. There are many instances where improper counseling or bad advice has resulted in the pastor and church being liable. The pastor needs to know when matter, are beyond his/her capabilities. Making referrals when necessary is always good. 5

Do your church have any guidelines or personnel policy in place to deal with personnel matters? It would be best for the church to have something in place that would speak to personnel problems. A procedure for handling grievances is always helpful.

6. Is your church incorporated? There are no requirements in North Carolina for a church to be incorporated; however, it may be a wise thing to get some legal advice on the advantages and/or disadvantages of incorporation. Regarding issues of liability, your church and membership may be affected.

7. Do your church keep good finan-

cial and tax records? If your church is issuing checks for payment of services rendered as an employee or independent contractor, you need to ascertain your tax obligations and responsibilities.

These are just a few issues that may have legal consequences for your pastor and church. It is my hope and desire that you consider them. If you wish our services in any way please contact us at the following:

Dr. James W. Smith
146 Presidents Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28305
(919) 479-0501
Email: jsmith9450@aol.com

Rev. W. J. Cox
107 Gay Street
Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 751-9899

Dr. Joshua J. Haire, Jr.
P.O. Box 53803
Durham, NC
(910) 323-1508

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PLEASE CONTACT CHURCHES FOR SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS SOME REQUIRE 3 OR MORE YEARS PASTORAL EXPERIENCE, SEMINARY TRAINING, MISSIONARY BAPTIST ORDINATION, MUSICAL SKILLS) FOR SPECIFIC CHURCH QUALIFICATIONS CONTACT THE PULPIT COMMITTEE)

PASTORS

MOUNT OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Bayboro, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. One business and two personal references (no family references)

Send information to:
Mayor B. Credle, Deacon Chairman
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5972 NC Highway 304
Bayboro, NC 28515

OLIVE BRANCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:
The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chairperson
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
elonzajoyner@hotmail.com

PASTOR: OAKLEY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Clayton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
 2. Personal references
- Send information to:
Oakley Grove Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson
PO Box 2435
Smithfield, NC 27577

MOUNT CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for an ordained Missionary Baptist Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. Salary Negotiable based on experience and

qualifications
Send information to:
Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Committee
PO Box 1421
Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1421

MOUNT PLEASANT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Harrellsville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor. The church is located in Hertford County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A Resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. Two personal references (no family references)

Send information to:
Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Pastoral Search Committee
ATTN: Deacon Eugene White
815 Swains Mill Road
Harrellsville, NC 27942

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

A Resume
Send information to:
Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Pastoral Search Committee
Route 2, Box 128
Norlina, NC 27563

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH Thomasville, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide a resume. Send information to:
Tanya M. Autry, Chairperson
Pastoral Search Committee
First Missionary Baptist Church
103 Church Street
Thomasville, NC 27360

GREATER LOVELY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are located in Warren County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
 2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
- Send information to:
Mrs. Lucy E. Branch
PO Box 52
Warrenton, NC 27589

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, Newburgh, NY: currently accepting applica-

tions for Senior Pastor with strong Baptist roots. The Committee will provide each candidate with an application packet.

Send request to:
Ebenezer Baptist Church
ATTN: Deacon Milton Buxton/Confidential
PO Box 248
Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

SHADY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, East Spencer, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. At least four references: (2) business (2) personal
3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:
Shady Grove Baptist Church
ATTN: Clarence A. Jones, Chairperson
PO Box 447
East Spencer, NC 28039

MOUNT CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Wilmington, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume or Letter of Interest
2. At least five references: (Two can be ministers)
3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:
Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
ATTN: Rena Lennon
PO Box 1970
Wilmington, NC 28420

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Kittrell, NC currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume with cover letter of interest
- Send information to:
Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 175
Kittrell, NC 7544-0175
252-492-0567

EASTERN STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: of Tarboro, North Carolina 27886 seeking a pastor;

- He must be experienced
- Well seasoned
- He must believe in the word of god
- He must live by the word of god
- Willing to teach Sunday school and bible study class
- Must be between the age of 25-55.

Please submit Resume to:
Pulpit Committee

Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 1677
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886

THE ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH seeks a Pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. St. John has a rich legacy of 75 years of service to the city, county, state and country, which suggest the following list of desired characteristics:

- Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
- Must possess ability to teach, train and coach church officers and auxiliary leaders.
- Must have the skills and be willing to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
- Must have the prerequisite administrative skills, which include the ability to articulate, negotiate and facilitate effectively with a diverse community including educational, business, political, civic and philanthropic communities.

- Evidence of community awareness and involvement

- Must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of the Church.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE MUST INCLUDE:

- Minimum of ten years in the ministry as a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
- Terminal masters degree from a recognized accredited seminary or theological institution.
- Must possess strong and proven administrative skills and experience.
- Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies and procedures, and willingness to follow the by-laws governing the church

- Must possess effective oral and written communication skills

- Demonstrated financial ability and experience with 1 Million + budgets

Interested persons meeting all of the above characteristics and minimum qualifications should submit the following information:

- A resume and letter of interest to include a vision statement as it related to their ministry.
- Copies of license and ordination certification

- Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training

- Name, address and telephone number of five [5] personal and professional references with no more than three [3] coming from other ministries familiar with your ministry along with an audio/video sample of a sermon.

Completed applications will be accepted for the posting period July 22, 2002 - August 23, 2002. Applications postmarked prior to, and after the posting period will not be considered.

Classified

ministries familiar with your ministry along with an audio/video sample of a sermon.

Completed applications will be accepted for the posting period July 22, 2002 - August 23, 2002. Applications postmarked prior to and after the posting period will not be considered. Completed applications should be sent via certified/return receipt mail addressed to: Mr. Manning Fogan, II, Chair, Pulpit Committee, St. John Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1038, Getzville, New York 14068-1038

SECOND CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
114 NELSON AVENUE
CHARLOTTE, NC 28216

Second Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a full time pastor to serve as spiritual leader, teacher and counselor for her congregation. Finalist for this position must meet the following qualifications:

- o Born-again licensed, ordained minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- o Knowledge of Baptist doctrine, practices and polity
- o B.A degree from an accredited institution of higher learning
- o Senior Pastor for at least four to five years
- o Good administrative and communication skills
- o Ability to communicate with all age groups especially the youth
- o Leadership experience in developing or administering youth programs and community service programs
- o Willingness to affiliate at the national, state and local Baptist conventions and associations.
- o Present location within five hours driving time from Charlotte
- o Willingness to submit to a police and credit check

Resumes for persons meeting these qualifications should be sent to the Pulpit Search Committee at the address shown above. Resume deadline date is September 19, 2002

FOSTER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, is accepting resume for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- He must possess good moral and ethical conduct, living by Timothy 3:1-13, Titus 1:7-9 and abstain from study activities and inclinations as those cited in Romans 1:26-27.
- He must have a minimum of three (3) years experience as pastor with demonstrated ability in counseling and supervising all work for the church.
- He must live in the proximity of the church.
- He must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach God's word.
- He must possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist Doctrine, Church Policies, and Practices, and be willing to abide by them.
- He must have the skills required to work with all

age groups, with special emphasis on the youth.

- He must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of the church.
- He must be community oriented, and have strong family values.
- He must have a minimum of a high school diploma7 preferable a degree or courses in seminary training from an accredited college or university.
- He must be willing to attend Sunday School, Prayer Meetings, and teach Bible Study.

Please send resume to:
Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church
1911 South Church Street
Post Office Box 6317
Rocky Mount, NC 27802-6317
C/O The Pulpit Committee
Trustee Hiaawatha Knight

MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Shelby, NC is currently accepting applications for a pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. The Church is affiliated with the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Association, and the General Baptist State Convention of NC. Interested applicants should provide the following:

- Resume (including pastoral experiences and educational qualifications)
- A copy of religious credentials (license/ordination)
- At least three personal references (no family)
- Send information to:
Pastor Search Committee
Mount Calvary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 3181
Shelby, N.C. 28151-3181

CHURCH STAFF: **MUSICIANS**

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Able to play the piano. Keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as, well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship.

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: Wake Forest congregation seeks musician. 1.) The duties include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship, 2.) Playing during Sunday morning worship service, 3.) Rehearsing with various choirs one night per week, 4.) And accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to:

Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church
12700 Creedmoor Road
Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587
(919) 870-8874

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY: THE SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the appropriate qualifications. **(SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS AT BEGINNING OF CHURCH STAFF/MUSICIAN SECTION):**

For additional information please send inquiry or resume to:
SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 924, Warrenton, NC 27589
Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

MUSICIAN NEEDED: Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday. Prepare Choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship. Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times. Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church functions. Direct congregation in congregational hymns. Must be able to play he car as well as read music

To Apply call:
(704) 532-6813 or E-mail to
GalileeNC@aol.com
GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: THE PENN AVENUE MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian, who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:
*Plays the organ and piano
*Able to work with a diverse group of singers
*Experienced in all sacred music
*Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear
Send resumes or responses to:
Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214,
Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849
Attention: William W. Peele Jr.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED: THE PENN AVENUE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Oxford, NC, is currently seeking a **MINISTER OF MUSIC.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

(SEE SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS LISTED IN BEGINNING OF STAFF/MUSICIAN SECTION)

*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable
Sunday worship services. Service begins Sunday at 11 am with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 am. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED: THE NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH of Gate N.C. is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Able to play organ and/or organ.
2. Able to play diverse music.
3. Able to accompany the pastor and choir church engagements if possible.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE:

Send resume to:
New Hope Baptist Church, P.O. Box 91,
Gatesville, NC 27938
Attn: Fannie M. Spivey, Secretary
Calling (252) 357-1061 may make inquiries after 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED: Knowledge of music and the ability to play ear is appreciated. Presently, morning worship service is held every fourth (4th) Sunday, we are considering an additional Sunday services. Must be able to play for youth and adult choir. Church is located in War County, North Carolina. For further information, please call:
(252) 257-0221.

MUSIC OF MINISTER NEEDED: THE CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH in Gastonia, NC is currently seeking a Minister of Music **(SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT BEGINNING OF STAFF/MUSICIAN SECTION.)** Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to:
Center Baptist Church, Attention: Personnel Committee.
POB 550064
Gastonia, NC, 28055

or fax cover letter and resume to:
Personnel Committee at: 704-824-7683.

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH is seeking Full-time Christ Minister of Music. Loyal and (Committed Gods program.) Must possess people skills, trained as a Musician, Conductor, and Church Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:
Attention:

Classified

Trustees Emmanuel Missionary
Baptist Church
333 N. Highland Street
Raleigh, NC 27602

CHURCH MUSICIAN: THE CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Gibson, N.C. is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician. Qualifications: **PLEASE SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION** Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at this address.

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
1600 Railroad St.
Gibson, NC 28343

CHURCH MUSICIAN: THE FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH is accepting resumes for a Church Musician. Qualifications: **(SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION)** Salary negotiable.
15 West Willis Ave.
High Point, NC 27260
T. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH
Buffalo, New York A Church with a Mission
Pastoral Vacancy

THE GREATER PINEY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH is seeking an experienced, dynamic worship and praise Minister of Music.

We seek a person who first and foremost has a passion for God and His Word, then a passion for people and for music.

This person will be responsible for directing, managing, and developing all functions and aspects associated with planning and implementing a comprehensive Church Music Ministry.

A person in this position must possess formal training and expertise in the area of music, has excellent organizational skills, and the ability to work cooperatively with a diverse group of people.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Science Degree in Music with concentration in choral, church, or music education. A minimum of two years of work experience as Minister of Music or Minister of Music Assistant in a similar Church environment.

An Instrument skill proficiency test is required on piano and organ. Must possess the ability to organize and prioritize tasks, events, and activities; ability to work under pressure of deadlines; make decisions; and establish effective working relationships with the Pastor, choir members, church members, supervisor, and church community.

-Resumes will be accepted until August 31, 2002. Start date for this position will be December 31, 2002.

-If the Holy Spirit excites you about this opportunity to serve God, and you meet the qualifications and expectations described above, we would love to hear from you.

Please e-mail your resume to or mail it to:

The Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church
1879 Glenwood Avenue, S. E.
Atlanta, GA 30316

Attn: Personnel Committee

JEFFRIES CROSS BAPTIST CHURCH

Send cover letter and resume to Jeffries Cross Baptist Church, 2015 Jeffries Cross Rd., Burlington, NC 27217. Phone: 336-226-9626. We are currently seeking a musician who will work directly with the pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the music ministry. Qualifications: 1. A Christian with piano, keyboard, organ ability; read music, play chords, teach harmony, direct choirs, conduct two rehearsals per month with four choirs, accompany pastor on engagements, accommodate traditional and contemporary worship styles.



LOOK OUT FOR NEXT MONTH'S SPECIAL ISSUE!

(A special 135th Year edition of the Informer will appear next month that will include highlights of Dr. Fuller's Presidency.)

A new GBSC President and administration will be elected in October. This election will be historic in the history of the GBSC. The new President will be the first President elected in this century and millennium to serve the Convention. It is important for all churches to pre-register and to get your messengers certified. Election Kits are in the mail. If your church does not receive its materials or if you have questions please call Baptist Headquarters, 800/639-GBSC.

Make your plans now!

Baptist Informer

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BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 125, No. 10

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

October 2002

General Baptist State Convention 135th Annual Session

By Archie D. Logan, Jr.
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

We greet you in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! President John D. Fuller, Sr., joins me in thanking you for your support and sacrifices this year. *The*

Challenge Is The Same: Reach The - Masses" John 12:32 (KJV).

Plan to join us in Fayetteville, NC, October 27-31, 2002. We will be voting for new GBSC, Inc., officers. The Mount Olive Baptist Church,



Dr. Archie Logan, Jr.

Reverend Dr. Carl E. Brinkley, Jr., Pastor, will serve as host.

The election will be historic in the history of the GBSC. The new President will be the first President elected in this century and millennium to serve the Convention. It is important for all churches to pre-register and to get your messengers certified. Election Kits are in the mail. If your church does not receive its materials or if you have questions please call Baptist Headquarters, 800-639-GBSC. Make your plans now! Voting is important and we encourage full participation in the election process.

I want to take this opportunity to say how much I have enjoyed working with Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., President; Dr. Charles T. Bullock, Vice President at Large; Dr. John H. Grant, First Vice President; Dr. Howard Parker, Second Vice President; Reverend N. T. Davis, Third Vice President; Dr. Nilous Avery, II, Fourth Vice President and other GBSC officers the past four years. Also, Presidents Dr. Jasper Reed, Congress of

Christian Education; Mr. Charles Fletcher, Ushers; Dr. Leonzo Lynch, Minister's Council; and Mr. Jarvis Morgan, Laymen's League, have all been successful leaders during their four-year terms. During the Session in Fayetteville we will close out these terms.

WHY VOTING IS IMPORTANT! "No vote No voice"

Introduction

Voting in elections decides who serves the city, county, state, nation, and the GBSC, Inc. Elected persons are responsible for vision, voice, mission and message of various bodies. So your vote is your direct link with the service and leadership you receive. Your vote makes a difference. If you choose not to vote your opinion has no effect on how things are run. You are expressing your democratic feelings by voting. You are making your point and position clear.

I want to encourage all Moderators and Pastors to encourage their people to VOTE. We want you to vote for new GBSC, Inc. officers but we must also VOTE in the upcoming North Carolina Statewide elections November 5, 2002. There are many statewide races that will affect us all from the new Senator to replace Jesse Helms to open seats on the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals.

People vote for many reasons...

Some reasons are based out of a sense of duty or obligation, some are based on citizenship and patriotism, some are about having a say in how we are governed, some are about trying to support a cause or defeat something we object to, and some are as simple as habit or family tradition. There are many good reasons.

We'd like to discuss some of the arguments for voting. If you are already planning on voting, then these reasons may reinforce how important your trip to the

ballot box is to you. And if you're sitting on the fence, not sure whether it's worth it to participate in the process, then maybe these reasons will motivate you.

The Fight for the Right to Vote:

One of the strongest reasons to vote, emotionally and culturally, is that *voting is a right that was long denied to us all*. The nation was founded on the belief that citizens had a right to a voice in government and that "taxation without representation is tyranny".

Despite the principles of democracy that were established in the Constitution and Declaration of Independence, many Americans were still denied a voice in government. First only wealthy white land owners could vote, then President and North Carolina native Andrew Jackson extended the vote to all white males. *Voting was denied to African-*

American men until 1870 (when the 15th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified). *Women of all races were denied the right to vote until 1920*. Even after the right to vote had been constitutionally given, *many people were kept from voting* due to unfair state laws such as poll taxes, literacy tests, and rules that said you could vote only if your grandfather was allowed to vote. Not until the 1960's were these barriers finally banned. *Voting rights were denied to 18-20 year olds until the 26th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified in 1971*.

Many great Americans of all races and gender fought, and in some cases died, trying to win the basic right for a voice in how they were governed. Though many people in America today take this right for granted, keep in mind that millions of

See CONVENTION, Page 2



Change For Change

Dr. Archie Logan, Jr., Mrs. Clydia Hill, Rev. James Richardson thank you!
Watts Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC

1867-2002 • 1867-2002

OUR 135TH YEAR

CONVENTION, Cont'd From Page 1

people today are still disenfranchised – that is, they are not allowed to vote – in many countries for the same reasons.

The Principle of Equality:

Our government is a democratic republic, which guarantees that the people have the right to elect those who represent them. This has survived in America despite numerous challenges. This survival was no accident. The principle that all citizens are created equal and all deserve *a government of the people, by the people and for the people* separates us from many other governments in the world. It has been the willingness of men and women to serve in the Armed Forces and to defend the country and the ideals it stands for – freedom, liberty and justice for all – that has kept democracy alive in America. Voting is both the simplest yet single most important act that the

average citizen can perform to show respect for those who fought to defend our system of governance.

A Voice in How You are Governed:

Perhaps the most common-sense reason to vote is to have your say in selecting the individuals who will make the tough choices that affect us all. Each year, *governments of all levels decide how to spend billions of tax dollars*. If you are concerned about funding for public schools, about water and air quality in your community, about the quality of the roads in your neighborhood, or about almost any other issue involving the allocation of public funds, then become an *informed* voter. Only a small number of Americans who could vote actually turn out to do so. Who will be elected if you do not express your opinions through your vote? What opinions will they represent?

Make Government and Politicians Accountable:

This is especially important in a state like North Carolina, where all laws must be approved by the legislature. Some states allow citizens and organizations to have direct votes on laws, which has pros and cons. It helps regular citizens have a direct voice in government, but it also can allow special interests to help pass laws that the government might have blocked.

In North Carolina, legislators, policy makers, and candidates deserve your closest scrutiny. Elected officials are far more likely to be attentive and responsive when citizens show their interest in how public policy is shaped, and exercise their right to hire and fire their Congressperson, State Senator, or County Commissioner.

There are many, many candidates bearing all political stripes who have chosen to run for public office. The system runs best when as many people as possi-

ble participate in the selection of these individuals. Only then can the cream rise to the top. When you Go Vote, you will be doing one small part of your duty as a citizen, and at the same time honoring those who have fought and died to guard your right to a democratic system of government. So Go Vote!

Conclusion

Moderators and Pastors, please see that members of your Associations and congregations are registered to vote in the November 5, 2002 election. Voter education is important! Call your local board of elections to find out how to get your people registered. Everyone 18 years and older can vote. Once registered it is important, Moderators and Pastors, that you see that members of your Association and congregations GO VOTE. Plan now for November 5, 2002! ■

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ELECTION YEAR

135TH ANNUAL SESSION

OCTOBER 27 - 31, 2002

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118 JOHNSON STREET
FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

HOST PASTOR: REVEREND CARL E. BRINKLEY

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

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Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr., Executive Editor

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Executive Editor

Ms. Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

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Four Phenomenal Years

By Reverend Dennis Leach B.S. M.Div.

On the 28th day of October, 1998, in Durham, North Carolina, the Marriott Center Hotel, Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr. was elected as the 18th President of the

General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Because of his already outstanding record of leadership support of the Convention and its unified mission objectives and his reputation as a proven ministry per-



Dr. John Fuller

former, his candidacy went virtually unopposed. Thus began four phenomenal years of prolific presidential service.

Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr., the Executive Secretary Treasurer of the Convention has labeled President Fuller the new millennium man, and says that his tremendous tenure spans and bridges the gap between two millennia and two centuries. He remarked that this distinction makes Dr. Fuller the last and the first President of both the century and the millennium. Executive Secretary Treasurer Logan says President Fuller has far exceeded the demands of his office by being one of the most traveled Presidents in the history of the Convention, preaching and lecturing across the length and breadth of this state. In addition, he has actively promoted and supported the Convention's health care and foster care initiatives. Enough cannot be said of the President's commitment to the success of our organization, from his willingness to subsidize the position of the Assistant to the President, to the fact that the Lewis Chapel Church has given \$563,497.32 (five hundred sixty-three thousand, four hundred ninety-seven dollars and thirty-two cents) to the Convention's unified programs during his Presidency. In addition the Union Association of which his church is a

member has been the leading Association in contributions to the Convention. Dr. Logan says the Convention has sometimes struggled to maintain its buoyancy economically, and churches like Lewis Chapel have helped to keep it afloat.

The financial record and contributory books of the Convention show that the Lewis Chapel Church under the leadership of Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr. has been a major benefactor. President Fuller was suited and gifted for Christian leadership, in that he has built an undeniable legacy when it comes to putting his ministry dollars where his doctrinal mouth is. This can be seen on the economic ledgers of ministerial institutions worldwide. This is evident from his support of the Fayetteville/Cumberland County Ministerial Alliance, Union Baptist Association, the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., the North Carolina Council of Churches of Christ, the American Baptist Churches of the USA, the National Baptist Convention USA, Incorporated, the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, and the Baptist World Alliance. The Lewis Chapel Baptist Church was the leading contributing church to the National Baptist Convention USA Incorporated in the minutes of the recent annual meeting held in Philadelphia. To say that John D. Fuller, Sr. thinks outside of the box is an understatement, he is a mission-oriented ministry renaissance man. In terms of his ministry, where you see him today, he will not be there tomorrow, because kingdom building for him involves progress which sometimes can mean embracing change.

Several principles have guided President Fuller's Christological ministry posture, from his early experiences as a preacher in rural Georgia to a promise he made to God about his future. His experiences have made him a consummate friend and confidant of clergy around the globe. At the forefront of his ministry motif has been his ideology: "the church is not the church unless it gives itself away", and "the church should always

move forward and never backwards". When no one thought it possible, President Fuller has literally performed miracles. Under his leadership and with God's help and guidance, he has transformed a rural church in the small enclave of Fayetteville into a ministry giant.

A preview of his presidential leadership style and abilities could be seen in his proactive progressive pastoral leadership of the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church of Fayetteville. President Fuller has served as the senior pastor of the Lewis Chapel congregation since the summer of 1973. Under his pastorate the church has blossomed tremendously in terms of outreach and in-reach ministries locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. And it has grown from a small, close-knit group of less than one hundred members and an annual budget of eight thousand dollars, to more than three thousand members and an annual budget well over three million dollars. A plethora of ministries have grown up under his inspired leadership to include a senior citizens living complex, food closet, economic support to colleges, seminaries, Mission groups, health groups and other helping agencies. The Lewis Chapel Church also provides provisions of loans for small business start-ups (for its members), scholarship to all students (members) going to college, a care clinic for medical and dental treatment for the uninsured, a four-star licensed Child Care Center, and Interfaith Hospitality Network. Purposely, a substantial amount of the church's budget is allocated for mission work on

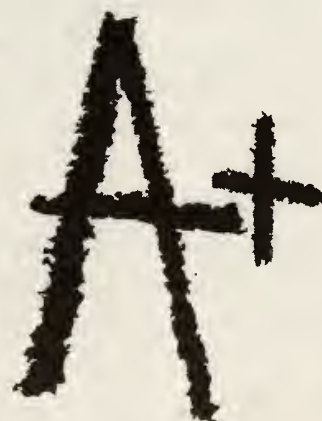
the state, national, and international levels. With the earned support and backing of his local church (Lewis Chapel), John D. Fuller, Sr. accepted the presidential mantle of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

With an eye on the past but a focus on the future, this forward thinking visionary began to move the Convention towards vital and viable ministry. Working in tandem with Dr. Logan, Convention officers, as well as appointees, and other auxiliary leaders, President Fuller set the Convention's ministry agenda course. His understanding and concern about the single most important item to the African American family, and community as a whole, led him to appoint a Housing Committee Chairman, Dr. Thurman B. Everett, who was then tasked to produce and provide a manual on purchasing your first home. That manual was distributed to Conventioneers free of cost at the Mid-Year Session held in Oxford, North Carolina, in May of 2000.

On the cusp of his first year, a natural disaster would literally and figuratively set the high water mark of his presidency. Perhaps Floyd would have dwarfed a lesser leader, but Fuller worked well under pressure and showed remarkable emergency management skills in rallying this faith community. In September of 1999 hurricane Floyd struck the eastern portion of North Carolina destroying homes and places of worship. Many constituent churches of the Convention were hard hit, and many of their parishioners were left

See PHENOMENAL, Page 5

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2002 Youth Evangelism Conference

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

**(THE UNION HAS HAD TO
CHANGE THE FACILITIES
BECAUSE OF CIRCUMSTANCES.)**

On Saturday, November 2, 2002, at 9:00 A.M., the Annual Youth Evangelism Conference of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention will



**Dr. Priscilla
Brodie**

unions, auxiliaries, and district conferences should come to this event. Youth need to bring their Bibles, and a liberal

convene at Northwest High School in Littleton, hosted by the Halifax County Union, Mrs. Audrey Battle, President.

Youth (along with supervisors, pastors, and parents) of

offering, and pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Supervisor Ellender LeMay and the Youth Department envision a very exciting session. The session will include singing, praying, youth speaking, sharing of life experiences, preaching and teaching evangelism from a youth's point of view.

**Directions to the Youth Evangelism
Conference
Northwest High School
Littleton**

"...Check and make sure the road still exists.... This is only to be used as an aid in planning."

Directions Coming From Raleigh

Start on I-440
Continue on I-440
Take Exit 13 (New Bern Avenue/US 64)
Continue on US 64/New /Bern Avenue
Take the I-95 North Exit
Merge onto I-95 North
Continue on I-95 North



**Dr. Julius
McDonald**

Areas:

Start on I-95 North
Continue on I-95 North
Take Exit 150 (NC-33 towards Whitakers)
Turn left on NC-33
Turn right on NC-4/NC-48
Continue on Roanoke Avenue
Continue on NC-4/NC-48
**The school's address is 8492 Hwy 48
Littleton, NC 27850**

**Directions Coming From Warrenton
and Surrounding Areas:**

Start on US-158 Business
Turn right on US-158
Turn right on NC-903
Turn Right on NC-48
**The school's address is 8492 Hwy 48
Littleton, NC 27850**

**Directions Coming From Durham,
Charlotte and Surrounding Areas:**

Take I-85 North
Take Exit 220
Bear Right on Ramp
Turn Left on US-1
Turn right on US-158
Turn Right on NC-903
Turn Right on NC-48
**The school's address is 8492 Hwy 48
Littleton, NC 27850**

**Directions Coming From Wilmington
and Surrounding Areas:**

Start on I-95 North
Take Exit 168 (NC-903 towards Halifax)
Turn Left on NC-903
Turn Left on NC-48
**The school's address is 8492 Hwy 48
Littleton, NC 27850**

**Directions Coming From Elizabeth
City and Surrounding Areas:**

Start on US-17/US-158
Continue on US-17/US-158
Turn Left on US-13
Turn Right on US-158
Bear right on Sycamore Street
Turn right on East 2nd Street
Continue on West 2nd Street
Continue on 2nd Street/W 2nd Street
Continue on Roanoke Rapids Road
Continue on US-158
Turn left on Smith Church Road
Continue on NC-125
Continue on Smith Church Road

Take Exit 168
Turn left on NC-903
Then Turn Left
on NC-48
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**Directions
Coming From
Fayetteville and
Surrounding**

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Littleton, NC 27850**

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**Lodging for the Youth Evangelism
Conference**

Holiday Inn, Roanoke Rapids – 12 miles
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Rate: Approximately \$67 - \$119.00

Best Western, Roanoke Rapids – 14 miles
– Interstate 95 at South Route 4,
Roanoke Rapids – Rate:
Approximately \$54 - \$60

Hampton Inn, Roanoke Rapids – 13 miles
– 1914 Julian R. Allsbrook Hwy.,
Roanoke Rapids – Rate:
Approximately \$61 - \$67

**The rates shown above may not
include taxes, service charges, fees,
extra person charge, or any other inci-
dentals. Please contact the hotels to
verify rates and availability immediate-
ly.**

INSTITUTE WORKERS' CLINIC

On Saturday, October 12, 2002, at 10:00 A.M., at Baptist Headquarters, will be the annual workshop session for and with the corps of WBH&FMC certified institute workers. All of the certified persons are requested to come and share in this event.

PRAYER MONTH FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

October is the month set aside to emphasize prayer for the Shaw Divinity School and Shaw University.

BAPTIST WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Baptist women across the world will gather at different locations to pray on Monday, November 4, 2002. This prayer ministry is under the auspices of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) Women's Department. Free prayer materials, while quantities last, are available here at the office. ■

GBSC Is Available To Work With Churches

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Greetings! The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina is available to work with your church during the time you do not have a Pastor. We will work with the Deacons and other officers to provide guidance as you search for a new pastor to lead your church.

Some of the things we offer:

- We have ordained Baptist ministers available to assist the Deacons in carrying out the Church Ordinances: Lord Supper and Baptism.
- We have ordained clergy who can serve as an "Interim Minister" in your church.
- Some suggested workshops:
 - ✓ How To Select An Interim Pastor?
 - ✓ How To Call A Pastor?
 - ✓ How Much Should We Pay Our Pastor?
 - ✓ Church Administration
 - ✓ How To Plan A Church Budget
 - ✓ Effective Bible Study
 - ✓ Evangelism Classes
 - ✓ Special Training For Deacons/Trustees
 - ✓ Christian Education Planning
 - ✓ Church Development
 - ✓ Please call if you are interested in any of these services!
 - ✓ 1-800-639-GBSC (4272)

PRESIDENT'S NEWS CONTINUED

PHENOMENAL, Cont'd From Page 3

homeless. This catastrophe forever broadened the Convention's mission focus to now include a housing emphasis that went beyond mere dialogue.

In the wake of the disaster, President Fuller called an emergency meeting galvanizing Conventioneers to secure funds and to begin distribution of those funds and other resources to local area pastors and families. The scope of that effort would grow tremendously to also include an initiative in Princeville, the oldest black township in the nation, that had been virtually under water for nearly two weeks. Because of his influence, President Fuller was able to call on the state Laymen's League President Jarvis Morgan, and over the next three years Laymen from around the state marched into Princeville with hammers in hand, assisting in the ongoing recovery efforts.

On President Fuller's watch, to this date, after securing land and while partnering with the Baptist Convention of North Carolina (Southern Baptist), the Convention has been able to build five houses in Princeville. Additionally, the Convention has received (\$887,500.00) eight hundred eight-seven thousand five

hundred dollars in grants from various partnering institutions. Housing Committee Chairman Thurman Everett, a Fuller appointee working with Dr. Logan in the wake of Floyd, organized a historic housing banquet that has grossed over (\$475,000.00) four hundred seventy-five thousand dollars in three years. The speakers have included Martin Luther King III, Attorney Willie Gary, and the Reverend Al Sharpton. This year (2002), the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton, former President of the United States, has been invited to address Conventioneers. In addition, the GBSC Housing Ministry is recognized at the Presidential and Congressional level as one of, if not the leading, faith-based initiative in the world.

President Fuller saw great promise in two other presidential appointees, Dr. H. C. Miller, Chairman of Evangelism, and Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch, Chairman of the Ministers Council, and in conjunction they would bring to the state of North Carolina some of the greatest preaching voices and academicians of our times. Among those gracing Convention pulpits and lecterns alike were: Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Dr. Robert Smith, Dr. A. Lincoln James, Dr. Regretta Burruss-Johnson, Dr.

William Augustus Jones, Dr. Faye Gunn, Dr. A. Wendell Mapson, Dr. Susan Johnson Cook, Dr. Mack King Carter, Dr. Charles Boothe, Dr. John Kinney, Dr. Alea Griffin, Dr. Yvonne Best, Dr. Benjamin S. Baker, Dr. A. Russell Awkard, Dr. H. Devore Chapman, Dr. J.D. Ballard, Dr. William J. Flippin, Dr. Johnny Freeman, and Rev. Claude Alexander. In addition, during President Fuller's tenure, the "Dean of black preachers" himself, Dr. Gardner C. Taylor often graced Convention pulpits with electrocutary excellence. To close out "four phenomenal years" Dr. William J. Shaw, President of the National Baptist Convention USA Incorporated, will preach during Dr. Fuller's Presidential Hour at the Annual Session to be held in Fayetteville, North Carolina, October 27th - 31st.

As the sun sets on the "ministerial-ly" productive administration of President Fuller, the work he has done over the course of four years on behalf of kingdom building speaks volumes of God's gift of grace that rests upon his life. Over the course of four years, the sailing on the ministry seas of this Convention was not always smooth, and like most administrations, this one has also periodically expe-

rienced turbulent waters. But like Nicodemus said to Jesus: "*Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him*". President Fuller, you can close this chapter of your ministry knowing that God has been with you helping you to do his work. Like an Olympian, you, President Fuller, have raised the bar of excellence in ministry for this Convention to an unscaled height with your vision and generosity. The history books of this body will forever show a luminous brilliance between October 28th, 1998, and October 30th, 2002.

As you bid us farewell as our President, carry with you the same assurance that Job exhibited when he said: "*Also now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and my record is on high*". President Fuller, be assured what you have done for God within this faith community will forever be recorded in the archives and annals of glory, and you will have your reward. The host of heaven has taken note, and the Convention has been made the better because you have passed this way. ■

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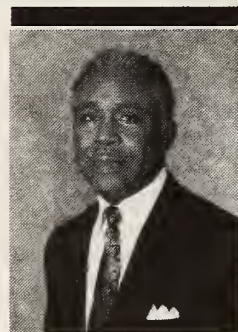
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To Serve the Present Age

By Charles Bullock
Vice President At Large

The Convention, through its churches and associations, is called to serve the present age. The church, a body of believers who have trusted Jesus to become His body, is the means by which His Spirit



Dr. Charles Bullock

lives and influences our lives and the lives of others.

We could even affirm that the church is the responsive and responding community in which Christ is received and accepted, honored and glorified to the

extent that the gospel is preached, the good news of God's love is proclaimed, and His love expressed to all humanity regardless of race or gender, denomination or culture.

Having served as fourth, third, and first vice president and presently serving as vice president at large of our great convention, I have been privileged to obtain a relevant and first hand perspective of the structural, the spiritual, the programmatic and the financial state and status of our convention. I know that it is vitally important that the president and other elected officials be accountable for the spiritual, programmatic, developmen-

tal, financial and overall welfare of the convention. This includes the continued development of projects now in progress such as the JJ Johnson Baptist Assembly, the projects in Princeville and Navassa as well as the other convention objectives and programs. Having been an active part of this convention for many years, the record will certify my commitment and stewardship.

Our convention has the responsibility of "Equipping and Encouraging the Church to serve this Present Age" and therefore must offer a versatile ministry and program to meet the needs of our auxiliaries, churches and associations. Included in my platform are the following goals:

Accountability. Be accountable for contributions sent for state mission and other objectives getting to the designated ministries and objectives in a reasonable amount of time. Accountability is of utmost importance in order to equip and encourage the church to serve this present age.

Responsive and Reciprocal. For those who have asked, "What is the local church getting from the convention?", we shall provide more resources to pastors, the laity, churches, auxiliaries and associations. This will include resources such as leadership guides, legal counsel, loan information and Christian education materials. Not

See SERVE, Page 7

News From the Foreign Field: The Lott Carey Convention

From Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr.
2nd Vice President

The following article was written by Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley.

Since its founding in 1897, Lott Carey has been a boundary breaking, big-stepping, world-embracing outreach of



Dr. Howard Parker, Jr.

African American Christians.

Through a contribution from yourself or your church, you can be a part of this effective, spiritually sensitive missionary effort. Lott Carey will help you break free.

Lott Carey will help you reach out. Lott Carey will help you better connect to the joyful, worldwide community of God.

In the last few years, as Lott Carey's chief executive, I've traveled widely around our world. I've interacted with Lott Carey's dynamic mission partners in places like Guyana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, South Africa, Zimbabwe and more.

We've laughed together, danced together, prayed together and worked together. How I wish you could meet them! From their stories, I know what a difference Lott Carey makes. That's why I'm asking you to join me as a contribut-

ing partner. Lott Carey will stretch your steps. Lott Carey will enrich your soul. Lott Carey will strengthen your hands. In sort, Lott Carey will connect you and your congregation with an empowering God who is even now at work breaking through the evil and injustice of our world.

Preaching, teaching, healing, feeding, caring for others, these are Lott Carey's agenda. With you, we're responding to the global HIV/AIDS crisis that is ravishing sisters and brothers in Africa. Everywhere we go, we 'do' the gospel while helping build a new generation of Christian leaders around the world.

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I believe we practice the best stewardship of money that you will find anywhere. We're a worldwide outreach that you and your congregation can be proud of. Won't you join us as we link arms with sisters and brothers around the world to spread and do the good news of Jesus?

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Together, we'll break through the walls. Together, we'll feel the Spirit's power. And together, we'll know the truth of that old song, "He's got the whole world in His hands".

I'm ready for God's anointing. What about you? ■

From the Desk of the Fourth Vice-President

By Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II - M. Div.

"To all (in the General Baptist Family)



Rev. Nilous Avery, II

who are loved by God and called to be saints: "Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 1:7, NIV). As we press on to our Annual Session gathering in Fayetteville beginning

October 27th, I continually pause to thank God for all of you, "because your faith is being reported all over the world" (Romans 1:8b). My tenure as your Fourth Vice-President winds down with a heart

full of gratitude and a mind that is made up to go on in the Lord.

I ask for your prayers and support as I seek to become Second Vice-President of this great body, by the grace and will of God. This convention stands on the threshold of blessings abundant through the power of God. Our mountaintop view of promised land possessions should not result in a stagnant spirituality. God has promised empowerment for those who are faithful. General Baptists, we can experience the power that is ours in Christ Jesus.

Power is a word that is used often in our world. We are familiar with "power plays" and "power dunks" in athletics. We eat "power bars" for energy while on the go. We install power locks, power brakes, power windows, etc. in our automobiles. Our children watch *Power Ranger* cartoons and movies. We use "power points" in professional presentations. Our church-

es apply the word **power** to add punch to our ecclesiastical gatherings.

How does the word **power** apply to our spiritual lives? In the New Testament, there are two forms of the word **power**:

- **Dunamis**: the ability, the force, the energy to do or act. It literally means powered by power, transforming power.
- **Kratos**: the power that is able to overcome resistance (see Hebrews 2:14).

The focus of this word is the transformation (change) that comes in order to glow, grow, and go when this power is present! (see Acts 1:8)

This also refers to overcoming the power of death. This word indicates that God's glorious might is needed for growth as a result of the many challenges that confront our spiritual advancement.

In other words, Christ's power must become tangible and visible in our lives in order to glow, grow, and go in the will and work of God!

God provides us with **POWER TO KNOW** (Ephesians 1:17-20; 3:18-19), **POWER TO WALK** (Colossians 1:11), and **POWER TO SERVE** (2 Thessalonians 1:11). We are called to be

fruit-bearers of God through Jesus Christ. True fruit-bearers possess inward divine power that transforms lives and overcomes obstacles to ministry.

Our opportunity to be witnesses of God's transforming power is here. It is located in Oxford, N. C. where our Central Children's Home is waiting to hear from you! The children/youth/staff/volunteers there are proof that God's power transforms lives and overcomes obstacles. General Baptists, we are in position to impact the world with a commitment to the Central Children's Home. Accept the challenge today by contacting:

- Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director, Central Children's Home (919) 693-7617; (919) 693-1213; (919) 693-3963 - Fax; or E-mail: cch@gloryroad.net
- Rev. Nilous M. Avery, II, 4th Vice-President/GBSC (704) 637-0954; (704) 633-6227; (704) 637-1137 - Fax; or E-mail: averyrevkin@aol.com

The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you all. Amen. ■

The New Pastor's Corner

"The Seasons of Change"
By Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter
Pastor/Shiloh Temple of Faith
Missionary Baptist Church
Fayetteville, North Carolina

David was the second king of Israel, a king chosen by God himself. As a boy, David was trained to tend to his father's sheep. He lived in Bethlehem with his family. David was the youngest of his family. He was anointed to be king at the

age of seven-
teen.

Nevertheless, that did not put David in the position or ministry of being king. David did not make his brethren recognize him as a king. David did not make his name cards with the title "King



Rev. Sandra Holland-Trotter

David". He did not make a statement declaring, "I have been prophesied a kingship calling and have been anointed to be a king." It was seventeen years later

before he had a partial fulfillment of that prophesy. He was made king over the tribe of Judah when he was thirty years old, but it was more than seven years after that before he became king over all Israel. He had a twenty-four year process of going from "called to be a king - to being a king". There is a preparation stage that the chosen of God must go through. David was a great warrior. He was a courageous champion and a great soldier. David had to endure seasons of change.

In order to channel the season of transformation in our lives we must learn to celebrate change. "On the way to celebrating that change is a road called patience and a place called time." In order to endure, we must first be willing to change individually. Change formulates in our mind. In order to change our mind we must first change our heart. Change comes from the inside out. "He who rejects change is the architect of decay. The only human institution which rejects progress is the cemetery." (Harold Wilson)

God has chosen, charged and is now

See SEASONS, Page 11

Laymen's League News



Jarvis Morgan

thank all the North Carolina Laymen who supported me whenever they were need-

Grace and Peace: "The Challenge Is The Same: Reach The Masses" (John 12:32). I want to thank God for the privilege to serve as the Laymen's League President these past four years. I also want to

ed. When the Convention called, they were there. THANK YOU!

The Baptist Laymen's League, an auxiliary of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, was organized December 14, 1947 at the First Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina. Since our beginnings we have been a pioneer in lay-ministry and the development of church servant-leaders. I am proud to say that the Laymen's League is still growing and going strong serving the Lord.

May the Lord God continue to bless our endeavors! ■

SERVE, Cont'd From Page 6

only will we expect to generously receive, but we will also appropriately give.

Reaching Out. To encourage and reclaim the pastors and churches who are not current contributors and supporters of the objectives of the convention. To also reach out to encourage and to invite their ideas and active participation.

Resourceful. Continue to encourage and provide for Christian education and the continued spiritual development for all of our churches (rural, urban and city) by offering classes each time our parent body and auxiliaries meet and providing resources persons for workshops for the local church, unions, districts and associations upon request.

Supportive. Be more supportive of higher education and the spiritual

development of our youth on college and university campuses. Encourage increased support for Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School.

God has blessed and positioned the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. to "Equip and Encourage the Church to Serve This Present Age". As we pray, work and walk together as co-laborers in Christ, we will make a difference as we positively impact the lives of those in our communities and world, for we are agents of change serving the present age.

Your prayers, support and vote will be deeply appreciated as I prayerfully seek the office of president of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. during the Annual Session in Fayetteville, North Carolina, October 28 - 31, 2002, at the Convention Center. The election will be held Wednesday, October 30. God bless! ■

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IN THE MORNING



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A Christian Education Moment

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed

While taking a few days to reflect on my life after completing four years as president of the congress of Christian education I became acutely aware of a



Dr. Jasper Reed

glaring youthful problem. We, in my community, are witnessing an increased rate in the demise of youthful lives at their own hands. This problem is either in your immediate family, extended family or your church family. Somewhere

nearby it is lurking and waiting for an opportunity to raise its ugly head. We are having a hard time to get our young men past the ripe old age of twenty-three. It appears that there exists an invisible line demarcation that inhibits the age of maturation.

I am attracted to the works of Solomon, Ecclesiastes 12:1, as he underlines the necessity for responsible living

in one's youthful life when he said, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth". I was disturbed to the point that I called for a council meeting with the youngest elements of my immediate family. My son and his beloved both in their mid-twenties responded. My questions to them were: what is missing, how did you get beyond the age of twenty-three, and what can we do? When you ask young people questions prepare yourself for whatever comes. They responded to the last part of this series of questions first. According to them Joshua, chapter 24 and verse 15 is the answer. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua was talking about serving the creator that Solomon was referring to in his lesson for living a responsible life. In other words if we take the house, which provides for the home, out of the equation then we have removed the equal signs. Therefore we no longer have an equation. This then removes the possibilities of us compromising, apologizing, recognizing, and/or negotiating the positions taken by each of us in an attempt to arrive at a successful solution to what we perceive our problems to be.

Finally, this marvelous group of young

folk that counseled with me said what is going on in the house makes the difference. Moses got it right from God. In Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Moses sought to get everyone's attention by establishing a truth that passes from generation to generation. The Lord God Almighty is totally unique. He alone is God and you can trust in His predictability. Moses reminds us that anyone this predictable should be loved and honored. To love the Lord means to choose Him and to put Him first in our lives by obeying His commands. His basic commands are to love Him with all of our hearts. If we meditate on and keep His commandments we will take on the aura of Him, His Son Jesus Christ, and the blessed Holy Spirit. These will be our guiding principles when we need counseling. Especially when we need help in problem solving.

So parents, grandparents, God-parents, guardians, and mentors our burden is when to begin cultivating this dynamic love relationship. Solomon said do it early. Do it before the days of trouble come. As we look at the world we live in, our first lesson should be love. Not only should we teach love we should also live it so when the young in our lives begin to

imprint models of living they will select the right one. One that is commanded by God.

A Christian Education Moment for our YOUTH and Young-at-Heart Quiz
Dr. Jasper P. Reed

Reality of Physical Death

The Promise of Death	Genesis 2:17
Death due to sibling violence	Genesis 4:8
A confession about death to his wives	Genesis 4:23
He lived nine hundred and thirty years before death	Genesis 5:5
Who lived eighteen years less than his father?	Genesis 5:8
Who was Enos father and who lived the longest?	Genesis 5:11
How did God remove Enoch from the earth?	Genesis 5:24
How long did Enoch's father live?	Genesis 5:20
Who lived the longest before death?	Genesis 5:27

Questions People Ask About Tithing

By Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

What is a tithe?

It is a Bible word describing the first tenth of one's income as property right-



Dr. Portia Brandon

fully claimed by God. Originally it was the first bushel out of every 10 bushels of grain, the first lamb out of the 10 lambs born, etc.

It is the clear-cut standard established throughout the Holy Bible as a principle by

which God's work is financed. Today it amounts to 10 percent of one's regular income.

Should I tithe before my private taxes?
Yes!

Should I give the whole tithe to the church where I am a member?

Yes. The strength of every local church is all-important! Unless it gets

the first share and the whole share, the base of operations can easily be eroded and under-mined by competing appeals from other worthy causes. "Bring the whole tithes to MY storehouse" (Malachi 3:10).

If I give my tithe to the church, what do I do about extra appeals?

That's where offerings come in. The church speaks of tithes and offerings—not tithes or offerings. Don't worry... You can't outgive God!

I am operating a business . . . should I tithe my salary or on net annual business profits?

You tithe regularly on your salary. At the end of the year, you supplement this by tithing your net annual business profits.

I agree tithing is the right thing to do, but I have already committed my income and there just isn't money left over to pledge—What do I do?

Remember the principle: Do not let past mistakes dictate your present and future decisions! So, if you have not been tithing, do not continue to make this mistake! (1) Release yourself, if necessary, from some of your commitments.

(2) Do not continue to penalize God's work for your past errors of financial judgement.

I have been in real desperate financial straits. I may even have to go into bankruptcy. Can you honestly and sincerely ask me to tithe?

Yes! You need a miracle! Begin by getting the best consultant you can. God is the best financial consultant! He promises to give you the wisdom if you give him his tenth. Ten percent is a small fee to pay for a smart consultant that can pull you out of the woods!

But... I would like to tithe, but I am not sure of my income!

At least you can tithe what you can expect you will receive. Thousands of Christians tithe one-tenth of what they would like to receive as an annual salary or income! And almost invariably they testify that their annual income has climbed up to their hopes on which they started tithing at the beginning of the year! Unexpected money, bills withheld that they anticipated, and surplus income surprised them through the year!

What if I tithe and feel I have made a mistake afterwards?

You won't! And if you should be the first person who would feel this way, all you have to do is ask for your money back. You'll get it!

I would like to tithe, but I am not sure I agree completely with the way all of the money is spent!

Naturally! No single person completely agrees with the way every dollar is spent in any institution! On that basis, you would give to nothing! The question you must ask yourself as a positive thinker: Is there something happening through this movement that I think is wonderful?

Are there people who give more than 10 percent?

Yes, many! The tithe is a minimum standard . . . not an ultimate goal!

Did Jesus ever praise people for tithing? No. It was their duty! You don't praise people for what they are supposed to do!

Praise is only earned by people who go beyond the call to duty! And Jesus did that!

He praised one person for giving money to the church. That was a poor widow who dropped in "everything she had". She gave 100 percent! ■

Reducing Your Medication Costs

Advice from Senior PHARMAssist
By Gina Upchurch, RPh, MPH

One of the major concerns facing many older adults today is the steady rise in medication costs. Although seniors represent only 13% of the U.S. population,



Dr. Anita
Holmes

However, when medications are used safely and effectively, they are probably some of the most cost-effective, preventive care tools we have in healthcare.

they consume about a third of the prescriptions filled, accounting for more than 40% of prescription expenditures. Many seniors are confronted with paying for several medications while living on fixed, limited incomes.

While little can be done to change drug pricing at the individual level, there are ways to decrease costs. Here are some tips:

Talk to your Healthcare Providers

- Have your prescribers or pharmacist review your medications regularly to make sure you're not taking drugs you don't need anymore. Keep an up-to-date list of all the medicines you take, including prescription, over-the-counter, and herbal products. This might prevent harmful drug interactions or taking duplicate medicines.
- Make sure that your healthcare providers know if you are struggling to pay for your medicines and ask if less expensive medicines are available and appropriate.
- Generic versions of many brand name drugs are available. A generic version is the same medicine, but with a different name and, usually, a lower price.
- For drugs taken on an ongoing basis that

are not likely to change, you can save money by buying prescriptions in larger quantities. Ask your doctor to write for several months supply.

- Ask about drug samples (especially if this is a new drug to you), non-drug alternatives, or over-the-counter options that can control symptoms.

Choose a Pharmacy that is Right for You

- Ask the pharmacy if they offer discount plans for seniors.
- Medication prices vary at different stores, and it may pay to compare prices. "Discount" drugs are not always the cheapest ones, since the price may have been inflated before it was "discounted." However, it may be worth paying a little more if you find a pharmacist you trust who looks out for your best interests.
- Mail order or on-line Internet pharmacies are most appropriate if you are taking a medication on an ongoing basis. While you may save direct drug costs, you will

not receive the face-to-face counseling with a pharmacist, which can be critical.

Learn about Available Benefits

- Medicare Part B covers much of the cost of a few oral cancer and anti-nausea medicines, drugs that suppress the immune system, medications that go into nebulizers (breathing machines), and the strips used to check blood sugar levels.
- Medicaid, some insurance companies, HMOs, and other public programs may pay for some or all of the cost of your medicine. Check the fine print to see if you have a medication benefit and how much your co-payment will purchase. For example, in North Carolina, the Medicaid program pays for up to six prescriptions each month and will pay for more, if deemed medically necessary. Medicaid benefits cover up to a 34-day supply of each medication. Generic prescriptions are \$1 each, while brand name medica-

See MEDICATION, Page 12

Faith and Fitness

The Status of Our Health

"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone"

By Charolette H. Leach, M. S.

In this article, we will continue to look at the status of the health of African Americans, with our focus on the top cause of death for the African American



Charolette
Leach

per month in 1999 were contributed to heart disease.

Does heart disease give any warning signs to the persons who develop it? Or does a person suddenly wake up at the age of 55 and have heart disease? The risk factors that we are discussing are the warning signs that need to be acknowledged, heeded, and addressed. Denial will not make these risk factors go away.

Last month our focus was on one primary risk factor of heart disease, smoking. If you are a smoker, and you choose to continue, the development of heart problems should not be a surprise to you. In this article, we will take a look at an

additional risk factor, high blood pressure, as it relates to heart disease.

Blood pressure is the force of blood against the walls of arteries. Blood pressure rises and falls throughout the day, but when the pressure stays elevated over time, it is called high blood pressure. Two numbers make up a blood pressure reading. The systolic pressure, as the heart beats, is read over the diastolic pressure, as the heart relaxes. A measurement would be written as 120/80 mm Hg (milliliters of mercury). A normal systolic pressure is less than 130 and a normal diastolic pressure is less than 85. A blood pressure reading to strive for is less than 120/80 and a consistent reading of 140/90 or higher is considered high blood pressure.

High blood pressure, or hypertension, has no symptoms, but is the most common form of cardiovascular disease. Hypertension causes the heart to work harder than it should.

Consider some facts about high blood pressure: Two out of every three blacks will develop hypertension by the age of 60 persons with high blood pressure have an **80 percent higher stroke mortality rate**, a **50 percent higher heart disease mortality rate**, and a **320 percent greater rate of kidney disease** than the general population

A recent survey conducted by the National Hypertension Association found that there is a low awareness among blacks of the risks associated with high blood pressure. The survey of 3,500 African American adults determined the

following facts:

One-third did not know their blood pressure levels

One-half did not know the risk factors associated with high blood pressure

85 percent did not know that weight loss could help to lower blood pressure

It is very important for us to know what our blood pressure is. It is very surprising to me to find out that one-third of the adults from this survey did not know what their blood pressure was. A more important question about blood pressure is what we do with the information, especially if it is determined that our blood pressure is high.

Fortunately, treatment of high blood pressure involves steps that are beneficial for many chronic illnesses. Eating a proper diet, low in fat, cholesterol and salt, and high in fiber is one step that can be taken. Increasing physical activity to lose excess pounds can also help to lower high blood pressure. Taking medication as prescribed and monitoring your pressure can also help you to take control.

As I consider the health of African Americans, I am always led to the Christian community and how the family of faith is responding. What steps are Christians taking with regard to health issues that are under our control? I wonder what we are doing with the measure of faith that God has given us. Yes, faith is needed to overcome the challenges of life and health, but what do we do with what we read in the book of James, Chapter 2. Verses 14 through 26 remind us that faith is good and necessary, but is

not quite enough.

"But wilt thou know, O vain main, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?"
James 2:20 - 22

Throughout the written Word as we receive comfort, guidance and direction, we find hundreds of examples of persons who had to add works to their faith in order to succeed and to be in the will of God. Yes, Abraham was tested, but it was his act of obedience and willingness to sacrifice Isaac that perfected his faith.

My husband often comments that God is not going to do for us what we can do for ourselves. God will help us to receive knowledge, and we will be nudged and encouraged by his Spirit to use that knowledge to our benefit for improved health, but it is our responsibility to take action and add the works to our faith.

If we are diagnosed with high blood pressure and we allow our faith to be perfected by making beneficial lifestyle changes, we can count on being successful in our endeavors. We can change what we eat and become more physically active to lower our blood pressure to the glory of God. Lowering our blood pressure will help us to be at less risk for heart disease, and will save us from a lot of pain and agony. Take these steps to perfect your faith and lower your blood pressure, because faith without works is dead. **Be Blessed! ■**

Evangelism Corner

Discipleship for the Kingdom

By H.C. Miller

The church "bids for people" in its evangelization. How could it be otherwise, since the church is entrusted with such good news for the world?

Indifference to people, lack of concern



Dr. H.C.
Miller

for those who do not know the good news of the reign of God, is not a faithful discipleship. The church, however, does not bid only "for souls", but for people, real people, who are called to enter into the reign of God – a

multidimensional reign that has to do with the totality of life for people.

And the church does not bid for people for its own sake for church growth. Church growth is never the aim of the

church, but the fruit of its witness to the kingdom, the outcome of the ministry to the world, the Lord's free blessing. The book of Acts, after describing the quality of life and ministry of the early church, spells out God's gift of growth: "And the Lord added to their number day by day" (Acts 2:47).

Discipleship evangelization, then, means recruitment – an invitation to participate in the blessings of the kingdom, to celebrate the hope of the kingdom, and to engage in the tasks of the kingdom. It means recruitment to discipleship in the kingdom and for the kingdom.

We need to correct the almost-invincible tendency of our evangelization to present the gospel in terms of "blessings" – benefits to be received, answers to all our questions, remedy to all our evils, new life to be enjoyed, a future state to be secured – without at the same time presenting the challenges, demands, and tasks of the kingdom. We need to remember Bonhoeffer's warning about reducing "costly discipleship" to "cheap grace". ■

20th Annual Pre-Conventional Banquet of the High Point Education & Missionary Association, Inc.

Women's Auxiliary

Mrs. Mattie Walker, Reporter

The Woman's Auxiliary, about 300 diners enjoyed the evening at the "Greensboro Marriott Downtown", with a scrumptious meal, lavishly dressed evening wearers and an up-lifting Key-Note Speaker.

Mrs. Julius McDonald, President of Woman's Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, proclaimed the good new of "The Price Is Right". She ended her message with an

inspiring Testimony that brought the congregation to the floor with praises and shouts of joy and gladness. The messenger and message were heart warming.

President Nancy W. Perry presided for the evening, and the Rev. William Hill, of Locust Grove Baptist Church was named "Man of the Year". Solos and music were provided by associational churches, as the same of such with the ushers of the evening. ■

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Gerontology

By Dr. Elbert Lee

How can gerontology help to contribute to a better way of life for the elderly? Dr. Elbert Lee, a consultant to the Institute on Gerontological Ministries and



Dr. Elbert
Lee

Services, Shaw Divinity School, seeks to provide answers in the discipline of gerontology, a program that he initiated and conducted for a number of years at the school. From biology, psychology, sociology, economics, political

theory, medicine, health care delivery, philosophy and religion, facts have been collected to improve the quality of life for the aged. Dr. Lee brings his insights from these areas to help equip students for ministry to the aged.

It is Dr. Lee's contention that the Shaw Divinity School is in a unique position, for it is one of the few seminaries in the country that offers a curriculum in gerontology for ministers and religious workers.

Dr. Lee notes that there is a faculty of well-trained personnel in ministry that can provide for services to older adults, especially so among blacks involved in local parish ministries. The program of gerontological ministries developed out of the interest of former students, who saw the need for receiving some formal training in gerontology and geriatrics, and persons from Wake and neighboring counties who saw similar needs.

Today, there are numerous students enrolled in the gerontology program, thanks to the hard work and dedication of Dr. Lee. We salute him for bringing such an outstanding and innovated program to the Divinity School.

Doctors study the illnesses of older people, biologists study the physical changes aging brings to the cells of the body, psychiatrists study mental illness among older people, psychologists study age changes in sensory perception, economists study the income requirements of older people, architects design special housing for older people, and the sociologists study the relationship between older people and their society and culture. Almost every area of study dealing with man or his needs has a branch which deals with older man. All of these tiny branches of these many fields come together under the name of gerontology – literally the logic of aging.

There are four related but separate aspects to the study of aging. The biological aspect deals with physical aging – the body's gradual loss of the ability to renew itself. The psychological aspect deals with the sensory processes, perception, motor skills, intelligence, problem-solving, understanding, learning, drives, and emotions of the aging individual. The biological and psychological changes which occur with advancing age coupled with the social environment of the individual produce a third aspect – the behavioral. This aspect of aging deals with attitudes, expectations, motives, the self-image, social roles, personality, and psychological adjustment to the situation. Finally, the sociological aspect of aging deals with the society in which aging occurs, the influence this society has on the aging individual, and the influence he has on it. The older person's health, income, work, and leisure, as these relate to his family, friends, voluntary associations, and religious groups, as well as to society in general, the economy, the government, and the community are all part of the sociology of aging.

These four aspects of aging – biological, psychological, behavioral, and sociological – are all interrelated in the life of any older person.

Shaw Divinity School

Institute of Gerontological Ministries and Services

Motto "Looking at Aging Professionally and Theologically"

The church meeting the major needs of the elderly

The Church and Gerontology offers:

A Christian perspective on aging.

A spiritual pilgrimage.

A program for older adults in the church.

Community concerns for the aging (a handbook about care in the home).

Information on Home Health Services.

Evaluating the Quality of Home Care Services.

How to arrange a Homebound Person's Environment.

Setting Goals and Objectives for Church Programs.

Nutritional concerns.

This program will feature the following:

Physical Fitness/Exercise Program

Theological courses will be offered at the Shaw Divinity School for the Master Degree and Diploma Program.

Support Groups for certain days of the week. ■

Pastor's Appreciation 2002

"Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine."
1 Timothy 5:17

Best Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina, was



Rev. Joe A. Jackson

the site of a gala celebration honoring God for their Pastor, the Rev. Joe A. Jackson in his Appreciation Service 2002. The celebration began with the morning worship service on Sunday, August 18, 2002, with the Rev. Derrel A. Hughes of Durham as the guest speaker. He gave an inspiring, dynamic message. The Youth

Choir set the tone for the service and the Holy Spirit was very vivid from the beginning and throughout the service. Rev. Eszrah Lofton presided and he began and ended with praise in his heart for God's goodness.

The celebration continued as God again met us in His holy house for the 3:00 P.M. worship with the Rev. Charles E. Franklin presiding. All were welcomed, our honored guests introduced, a "Reflection of Our Pastor" was read. Greetings were given by Mayor Alfonza King of the city of Goldsboro. The Afternoon Speaker was Rev. Dr. Arthur Evans of the Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist, who delivered a stirring sermon which was enjoyed by all in attendance. Music was by his Church Choir.

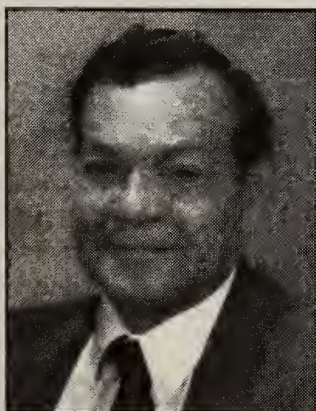
As presentation of gifts were offered the Sanctuary was filled with an abundance of love and admiration. Pastoral Remarks were given by Pastor Jackson, who expressed his gratitude for all the support and participation in making this celebration a memorable occasion. The Church wished that Pastor Jackson continue to preach the word for many years and continue winning souls to Christ. Immediately following the service, a Reception was held in the Dining Hall.

Family members attending were Sis. Barbara Jackson, the Mother of the Pastor, His wife, Sis. Jacqueline T. Jackson and their four children, Christin, LaTonya, Carl and Jeremy. ■

Announces Retirement

Rev. Dr. Arthur A. Brown celebrated his retirement from North View Baptist Church, South Hill, Virginia, where he served for thirty years and from Saint John Baptist Church, Middleburg, North Carolina, where he served for thirty-two years. Both retirement celebrations were well attended and dinner was served. Expressions and remarks were given on both occasions by the visiting ministers and congregations of both church.

Rev. Dr. John H. Foster, Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia, was the guest speaker for the Retirement Celebration from North View Baptist Church, and Rev. Dr.



Rev. Dr. Arthur A. Brown

James W. Smith, Pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Bahama, NC and Moderator of Moderators for the convention, was the guest speaker for the Retirement Celebration from Saint John Baptist Church.

Both were joyous and happy occasions. Dr. and Mr. Brown gave remarks, thanking everyone for their support over the years, their prayers and presence at the retirement celebration. ■

Nelson Chapel Baptist Church Celebrates 135th Anniversary with New Pastor

By Mrs. Mary Robinson and Mrs. Georgia Ratliff Alston

Nelson Chapel Baptist Church of Louisburg, NC, Franklin County, will mark several new beginnings this October when they celebrate the church's 135th Anniversary. First, recognizing the long-standing linkage of the congregation that spans over 125 years, and earlier this year in February, Rev. Emma Pace Solomon became the first woman to pastor this great church and congregation. To God Be The Glory!

Highlights of the Installation Service: Rev. Emma Pace Solomon is married to Deacon Weldon Solomon, Jr. She preached her initial sermon December 15, 1996, and was ordained on March 8, 1998. She is a product of Franklin County, employed by the Franklin County Public School System as Louisburg High School Guidance Secretary and co-owner of a retail shop. Rev. and Deacon Solomon are members of Shady Grove Baptist Church where she served as asso-

ciate minister, Young Adult Class Sunday School teacher, Senior Missionary President, Assistant Bible Study teacher, and Secretary/Treasurer of the North Carolina Association for Women in the Ministry, Inc.

Rev. Timothy Walker, Sr. presided. Rev. Solomon was escorted by Deacon Ervin Clifton and Deacon Solomon was escorted by Mrs. Mary Rose Clifton; the daughters, Ms. Jacuetta Wright, Oxford, NC; Ms. Tammi Wilkins, Louisburg, NC; and Ms. Teresa Solomon, Deland, FL; grandchildren, Shavone, Stephon, Marquis, and Tiara; the Nelson Chapel deacons and their spouses, Deacon and Mrs. Joseph L. (Mariena) Strickland, Deacon John Driver, Jr., Deacon and Mrs. Booker T. (Sallie) Driver, Deacon and Mrs. James (Bernice) Egerton, Deacon and Mrs. Sylvester (Bernice) Harris. Other family members in attendance to witness the service were sister, Ms.

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SEASONS, Cont'd From Page 7

changing us. Change is that characteristic that brings us to destiny. How can we get where we want to go if we are not willing to change from where we are? How will we ever see the future if we are determined to live in the past?

Many religious people are those committed to social justice so strong in doctrine but light in deeds, much on creed but light on conduct, much of belief but light on behavior, much on principle but light on practice.

We can make the difference if we broaden our circle of relationships and friendships, seeking the fulfillment of all that is good and decent within us, awakening later possibilities, potential and travel the path towards change. Our lives should become part of a widening circle of meaning and not narrowing. As we develop ethically, morally and spiritually in our own way, we will make contributions to the changing of the social fabric in our lives and communities.

We need to actively work for a just society through the integrated sense of being, but we cannot afford to just wait for someone else to do it, it must begin with us. We need to begin to live and work together with the faith that we are all brothers and sisters in the body of Christ.

Realizing change is a difficult word for some to accept, but it is one we must all embrace. Change begins with a seed. Everything begins with a seed. Someone plants a small acorn and it becomes a mighty oak tree.

The small kernel of corn is planted. It produces two cornstalks. Each stalk produces two ears of corn. Each ear of corn contains over seven hundred kernels of corn. From that one small kernel of corn, a seed, and 2,800 more kernels are created. Look at a seed as something that can multiply and become more. Love is a seed. Money is a seed. Time is a seed. Everything you possess can be planted back into our community as a seed. Seed faith simply means to plant something you have for a specific harvest.

"The one that created the world through His spoken word, directed the stone between Goliath's eyes, parted the red sea down the middle, leveled the walls around Jericho, made the sun stand still, made an ax-head float, rained fire from heaven and brought His Son back from the grave, takes delight in defying all odds as He alters the inevitable and by-passes the impossible." He is the same one who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly above all that we can ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. (Ephesians 3:20)

The seasons of change blow in many directions. We must be willing to change to God's way; God's will and rest until God's perfect timing is manifested in our lives. The seasons of change blow over hurts, disappointments and grief. In our ministries we will have all three and more.

If we wait on the Lord for his guidance and direction and move on God's command, the seasons of change will surely come! ■

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE NEWS



JACQUETTE

Birthday: September 8, 1986

Introducing Jacquette

Jacquette's foster mom says "Jacquette is a beautiful child with a magnetic personality. There is never a dull moment with Jacquette—she talks a mile a minute!" Jacquette is on the go constantly with her step team, cheerleading, singing, playing drums and whatever else she can squeeze in. She is in her school's R.O.T.C. program and attended R.O.T.C. camp this summer.

Adults who know Jacquette believe she could be an Honor Student if she wanted. She gets average grades and attends regular classes. Jacquette has made a good adjustment to her current foster home where she has lived for several years. Her self-esteem has skyrocketed and Jacquette feels good about herself and the progress she has made.

A Family for Jacquette

It will take an active, involved family to keep up with Jacquette so she can continue to pursue her various activities and interests.

Jacquette needs a family that will make her feel wanted and accepted and allow her good feelings about herself to grow. She will benefit from lots of structure and supervision. Jacquette will need to stay in touch with her brother, who will find a separate adoptive home. (NC #092-884)

For more information on these children or adoption in general, please call the NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care Network's toll free Hotline at 1-877-NCKIDS-1 (1-877-625-4371).



SIERRA

Birthday: November 12, 1986

Introducing Sierra

Sierra is a charming young lady with a beautiful smile. She is very sociable and loves attention. A typical teen, Sierra likes hanging out with her friends, listening to music, watching movies, shopping or fixing her hair. She is creative and

artistic with a talent and gift for drawing.

Sierra is intelligent and attends a regular classroom at school, but her grades have slipped as her social life has become more important to her. She has made progress with her attitude and conduct, but Sierra needs time to adjust to changes in her life and has to work much harder to control her feelings at those times. Medication helps her keep her feelings balanced and her actions and reactions appropriate. While she is not currently sexually active, Sierra does take birth control because of previous reports.

A Family for Sierra

Sierra will need a family that is patient and understanding about her past. A strong female role model that will teach her appropriate attitudes and guide her in making good choices would be extremely beneficial to Sierra's future success. She would do best as the only child or in a family that has grown children. (NC #035-678)

MEDICATION, Cont'd From Page 9

tions are \$3 apiece.

- Many drug manufacturers have "patient assistance programs" to help get medicines to people who cannot afford them. Each company has different guidelines, and the process will likely involve paperwork. Ask your doctor's office to assist you and more than likely – the medicines will be free to you if you qualify.
- A number of drug manufacturers have also begun to offer prescription discount cards to seniors. Just like the patient assistance programs, benefits and guidelines will vary by company; though all such cards provide at least a 15% "discount." Examples include: GlaxoSmithKline's "Orange Card," Novartis' "Care Card," Pfizer's "Share

Card," Lilly's "Lilly Answers Card," and seven companies have joined to offer the "Together Rx Card."

- TRICARE for Life, administered through the Department of Defense, is a healthcare benefit that includes prescription assistance for retired military workers and their families. If you or a spouse retired from the military with 20 years of service, and you have Medicare, you are probably eligible for TRICARE. For more information on this program, go to their Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/ndaa or call 1-888-DOD-LIFE.
- Veterans Benefits can also provide coverage for prescription medicines to honorably discharged military personnel who have performed at least 90 days of active service. In order to qualify for prescrip-

tion benefits, your primary care must be obtained at the VA Medical Center.

Finally, the state of North Carolina is about to launch a limited prescription assistance program for seniors with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level. The program, dubbed "Senior Care," will help pay for medications that treat three conditions: diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and breathing problems – including asthma, bronchitis, and emphysema. Seniors who qualify will pay 40% for these medicines, and the State will pay the balance, with a combined annual benefit cap of \$1,000. There are no premiums or deductibles, and the plan will provide participants with an enrollment card accepted by community pharmacies. Seniors who participate will also be

offered free medication therapy management, to ensure the medicines they are taking are as safe and effective as possible. For more information on Senior Care, go to the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Web site at www.dhhs.state.nc.us/aging/drugs or call 1-800-662-7030.

These tips are furnished by Senior PHARMAssist, a Durham nonprofit agency that provides health education and financial assistance for necessary medicines to Durham senior adults with limited incomes. If you are 65 or older, live in Durham, and need help paying for your medicines or have concerns about the medications you are taking, please call Senior PHARMAssist at (919) 688-4772.

ANNIVERSARY, Cont'd From Page 11

Evangeline Richardson of Wendell, NC, and brothers, Rev. Chester Pace, Bunn, NC, Mr. Ronald Pace, Raleigh, NC and Mr. Nelson Pace and Mr. Edward Pace, Louisburg, NC.

Several musical selections were performed by the TJR Mass Choir of Shady Grove Baptist Church such as "Our God Is An Awesome God!", "My Help Cometh From the Lord", and "I Am So Satisfied", to name a few. Rev. and Mrs. Clarence LeMay, Pastor and First Lady of Sandy Fork Baptist Church sang "Lord Keep Me Day by Day, In A Pure and Perfect Way", as a dedication to his friend and classmate, Rev. Solomon.

Rev. Joyce Hartsfield, Associate Pastor, Rocky Branch United Church of Christ, gave the "Old Testament" scrip-

ture from Proverbs 31:10-31 followed by Rev. Rory Sneed, Associate Minister, Shady Grove Baptist Church, offering the "New Testament" scripture from Ephesians 4:1. Prayer was offered by Rev. Chester Pace, Associate Minister, Sandy Fork Baptist Church, and the brother of Rev. Emma P. Solomon.

The program continued with The Purpose by Sis. Sallie Driver, Nelson Chapel's Clerk. Dr. J. C. Harris, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Statesville, NC, offered remarks on "returning to his home church for this great occasion" and extended the offertory appeal.

Deacon George Thomas of Shady Grove presented the speaker of the hour, Rev. Thomas J. Richardson, Pastor, Shady Grove Baptist Church. The Spoken Word was delivered from Esther 4:14-16 and

the topic "If Thou Holdeth Thou Peace, Who Knoweth Whether Thou Has Come To The Kingdom For Such A Time As This".

Rev. Richardson spoke words of encouragement to the First Family and members of Nelson Chapel Baptist Church letting them know that "before this ceremonial sermon was ever planned to join pastor and church there first was a meeting in Heaven between Father, Son and the Holy Ghost". He spoke on being Holy unto God, not just in the church and that this was a marriage celebration to join the church and pastor together – those whom God has joined together, let no man or woman put them asunder.

The preached word reminds us that the first message was sent by a woman – Mary – who wanted to know "who shall

roll away the stone?"

His sermon concluded with specific instruction for Rev. Solomon:

Fight on – If God be with you,
Preach it

If they pay you – Preach it
If they don't pay you – Preach it
If they shout – Preach it
If they don't shout – Preach it
If they say amen – Preach it
And if they don't say amen – Preach it anyhow!

Other ceremonial participants included The Charge to the Pastor by Rev. Melton Johnson, Pastor, Rocky Chapel Baptist Church, and The Charge to the Church by Rev. Opie Terrell, Jr., Pastor, Nutbush Baptist Church. Words of Encouragement were offered by Rev. Mary Heggie,

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GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Conference

By Earl Horton
GBSC Adoption and Foster Care
Director of Public Relations

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry held its first Western Region Seminar on Saturday, August 17th at Morning Star First Baptist Church in Hickory, where the Reverend Dr. Webster Lytle serves as pastor.

The Reverend Dr. Lytle and church staff welcomed the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry with open arms. The town of Hickory and surrounding areas

were very receptive of the Seminars being held on Saturday. People as far as Gastonia attended the conference wanting to know more information about the adoption and foster care process. Other families

wanted to get in depth questions answered and felt that this conference would be the best place to ask.

Efforts were made to get the word out to the public through the media. Sherbia Jones, Western Region Coordinator of the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry was beneficial of providing media contacts to

Issues. During the interview radio listeners were inquiring about becoming an adoptive and foster care parents. Later that day Jones, Horton and Tim Shufford, an adoptive and foster care parent interviewed with the News-Observer newspaper (Newton). Shufford expressed his reasons why he became an adoptive and foster care parent. He stated that Jones really played a huge role in helping him see that there is a need of families opening their homes to children with no one in their lives. He also spoke about the myths that people often associate with adoption and foster care. On Friday, Ms. Jones, Mr. Horton, and Dr. Lytle interviewed with Charter Communications concerning the conference. Dr. Lytle spoke very highly of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Conference and the need for churches to get involved in recruiting families for children.

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Seminar went successful. GBSC/Bridges, Nay-Kel, Catawba DSS, and NC KIDS made presentations. Dr. Dorothy Demby-Paige presided over the two-session seminar and thanked everyone for attending. The Reverend Norman T. Davis, 4th Vice-President of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc. gave the greetings on behalf of Dr. Archie Logan, Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc.

The informational seminar was excellent. The GBSC Adoption and Foster

made these presentations informative and interesting.

Our partners NAY-KEL, headed by Evelyn Jervay also made a presentation to discuss their recruitment efforts in eastern North Carolina. Deacon Thomas Lewis, who serves as church recruiter and consultant in Nash and Edgecombe counties for NAY-KEL was

very sincere in expressing their efforts of educating families about adoption and foster care.

Ms. Sherbia Jones took a different approach for her presentation about "Why Adoption and Foster Care". She intro-



Dr. Dorothy Paige awards Dr. Webster Lytle, pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church for his work in Adoption and Foster Care

duced Shamar, a 12-year-old who is currently living in a group home waiting to be adopted. He gave a very eloquent and personal account of wanting to be adopted. "When I go to college I don't want my permanent address to be the group home where I live," he says. This honor roll student has aspirations of becoming a lawyer. His dream is to have "two parents, at least a father". He has been placed in several foster homes throughout his young life. He is among the growing number of adolescent children who have not placed with a family because of their age being a negative factor. Regina Roberts, Catawba DSS Recruiter added, "Infants are much easier to adopt because they are what couples want. The challenge is finding good families for teens. If people would give them a chance, they would find they are very polite, articulate, and good people," Roberts said.

Mrs. Roberts' presentation discussed the process that singles or couples would need to go through to become a licensed home to have a child placed in a perma-

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Tim and Linda Shufford were awarded one of our families of the year award. They are foster and adoptive parents

the ministry to inform them of our Seminar. Jones and Earl Horton were interviewed on WHKY Radio Morning Show to discuss the seminar with host Hal Rowe on Thursday. Rowe praised our efforts in finding families for children in the Child Welfare System. He asked questions ranging from the process of Adoption and Foster Care to Diversity

Care Ministry presented first of the need of recruiting families and churches to adopt or foster children that is currently in the state child welfare system. The Reverend G. I. Allison, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Committee Chairman, The Reverend Anthonette Wright, Director of Church Relations, and Earl Horton, Director of Public Relations



Dr. Dorothy Demby-Paige recognizes Sherbia Jones for Western Coordinator of the Year

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ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE NEWS

CONFERENCE, Cont'd From Page 13

nent home to call their own. The training that potential singles and couples go through is referred to as MAPP (Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting). The MAPP training classes are designed to train singles and couples to address the needs of adoptive and foster care children. This course is a state-mandated course in order to become foster and adoptive parent(s).

NCKIDS, a statewide recruitment agency discussed their duties of following up with families that have been referred by private and public agencies. Ms. Jeanne Preisler, Program Coordinator of

NCKIDS spoke about families that have inquired about adoption and foster care by phone or by the internet. NCKIDS is responsible for sending families pre-placement assessment packets to be completed and returned to them so that County Recruiters can have this information to match them with children in the system.

The seminar concluded with a question and answer session for the audience to ask important questions that need to be discussed in detail. Some of the participants wanted clarification or answers that were given to them by other public and private agencies.

The second session of the seminar was

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Awards Luncheon. The Reverend Dr. Larry Williams, Senior Pastor, Harvest of Hope Family Services of New Jersey was the keynote speaker. He gave a very motivational speech on the need of the church getting involved in adoption and foster care. "It's time for the church to step up to the plate. The church has an obligation in this area," says the Reverend Dr. Williams.

After the Reverend Dr. Williams concluded his speech the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry awarded several

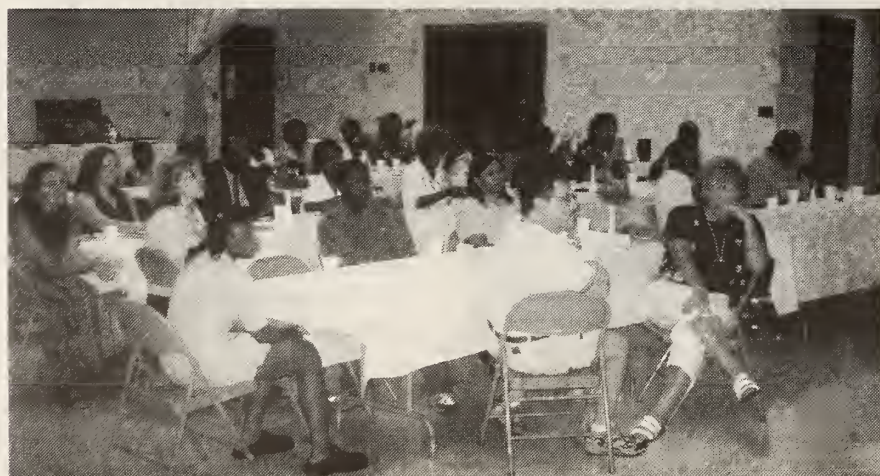
families for the love and support of providing homes for children in Catawba County. Those awardees were Tim and Linda Shufford, Glen and Daisy Wright. Other awards were given to Sherbia Jones for her recruitment efforts in the Western Region and to the Reverend Dr. Webster Lytle and Congregation of Morning Star First Baptist Church for the efforts of identifying families and the warm hospitality of hosting the Western Region conference. ■



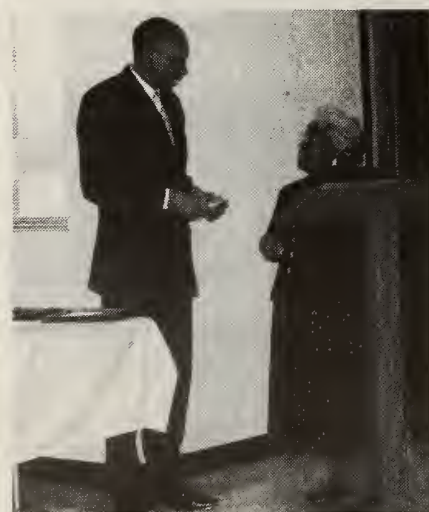
Attendees during seminar



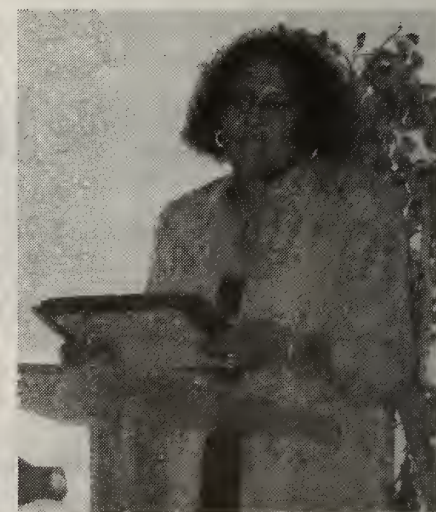
The Reverend Dr. Larry Williams, Senior Pastor, Harvest of Hope Family Services of New Jersey, speaks before the attendees of the conference



Attendees during the Awards luncheon



Dr. Dorothy Demby-Paige gives appreciation to Dr. Williams for being the luncheon speaker



Sherbia Jones awards the families for their efforts in adoption and foster care

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry Tidbits

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry will be hosting its Eastern conference on October 12th beginning at 10:00 AM at Sycamore Hill Baptist Church, (1001 Hooker Road, Greenville, NC 27834) where the Dr. Howard Parker serves as pastor.

Seminars will feature representatives from GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, Eastern Counties DSS, NCK-

IDS, and our partners Nay-Kel.

The focus of the conference will educate and address concerns about the Adoption and Foster Care process and the role that the faith community plays in identifying potential families for children in the child welfare system.

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry will host a luncheon to honor adoptive and foster families, pastors,

churches, and children advocates of the Eastern Counties. Our featured luncheon speaker will be the Reverend Wilbert Talley (Virginia One Church, One Child Program of Fairfax, VA).

Please plan to attend these seminars to become enriched with information about adoption and foster care.

For more information call Dorothy Paige at (919) 231-9774 or Earl Horton at

1-800-639-4272 and also by email gbsceh@aol.com.

November is National Adoption Month. We are asking for Pastors and Churches affiliated with the GBSC to devote one Sunday to promote Adoption in the congregations.

Stay tuned for the GBSC Baptist Informer November issue. You don't want to miss it. ■

Annual Report of the Minister's Council

By Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
President, Minister's Council

Greetings in the matchless name of our risen Christ. Dr. Fuller, our president, Dr. Logan, our Executive Secretary, officers, members of the General Baptist



Dr. Leonzo Lynch

State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated. It has been a joy and a pleasure to have been allowed to serve as the President of this great auxiliary of our GBSC over the past four years. Our efforts have been to strength-

en the clergy of our state and nation by providing opportunities for growth, enhancement and development. The following annual report is hereby submitted as an account of our stewardship in the area of the GBSC Ministers' Council.

Purpose and Objectives of the GBSC Minister's Council

OBJECTIVES

To establish an ongoing active General

Division and a Young Pastors / Ministers Division of the Ministers' Council that would provide resources for the clergy of our GBSC.

ACTIVITIES

Presentations at the following sessions:
Mid Year Session & Annual Session

GBSC Annual Leadership Summit
A conference designed to focus on the current trends and needs that face the Ministers of the Gospel. Special sessions were provided for Young In Ministry and Women In Ministry of our GBSC.

Ongoing Field Sessions – Workshops / Seminars to enhance the Ministries of our GBSC Ministers (Saturday Sessions, or Two day sessions, etc.).

Activities presented during the administration of Dr. John D. Fuller:

May 1999 – Mid Year Session – Elizabeth City, NC
Presenter: Dr. Lorenzo A. Lynch, Sr.

October 1999 – Annual Session – Charlotte, NC

Presenters: Rev. Claude Alexander, Dr. Johnny Freeman

February 17-19, 2000 – Special Year 2000 Leadership Summit – Charlotte, NC
Topics Presented:

Preaching Through Conflict / The Prophet & Politics

Leadership Paradigm: 21st Century Strategies for Ministerial Leadership To Serve in This Present "Computer Age" / Building the Ministerial Library
A New Paradigm for Christian Education / A Panel Discussion: How to Survive & Thrive in the Ministry

New Wine & New Wineskins: 21st Century Strategies / for Church Growth & Development

The Spiritual Life of the Minister/Pastor / Keys to Effective Preaching
Special Sessions for Women in Ministry & for Young Ministers/Pastors

Conference Preacher: Dr. William A. Jones
Pastor, Bethany Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY & Past President, Progressive National Baptist Convention

Conference Lecturers:
Dr. Faye Gunn – Assistant Pastor, Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA
Dr. J. Wendell Mapson – Pastor, Monumental Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA

May 9, 2000 – Mid Year Session – Oxford, NC

Presenter: Dr. John Kinney, Dean, Samuel D. Proctor, Scholl of Theology, Virginia Union

July 2000 – All Baptist Assembly – Winston-Salem, NC
Report/Presidents Address by Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
Guest Preacher – Dr. Arlee Griffin, Pastor, Berean Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York

October 2000 – Annual Session – Watts Chapel Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
Presidents Report – Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch

Winter Ministers' Retreat – November 2000 – held at the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC, Dr. John Fuller, Pastor

February 15-17, 2001 – Special Year 2001 Leadership Summit – Charlotte, NC

Theme: "The Challenge is the Same: Reach the Masses"
Sub-Theme: "Revitalizing & Empowering Ministerial Leadership"

Topics Presented:
The Minister's Personal Finances / IRS Guidelines / How to Revitalize your

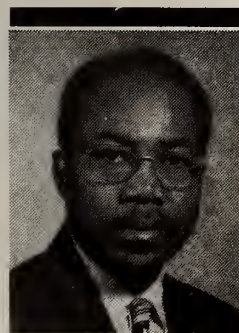
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MODERATOR OF MODERATORS NEWS

The Called, Associates and Interims

Grace and Peace to all of you, my brothers and sisters!

It has been a joy and an interesting task serving as Moderator of Moderators for the General Baptist State Convention. The committee members and I would like



Dr. James Smith

to thank each of you for the support you have given us. I want to especially thank all of the readers of my articles who have encouraged me to keep dealing with issues regardless of the controversial nature. So again, thanks to all of you. This is my last article in my capacity as Moderator of Moderators. However, it is my desire to continue addressing conflict and legal awareness issues, occasionally that I think are important to churches and pastors.

Lately, I have been receiving numer-

ous calls from churches and pastors regarding some very interesting issues. The calls have not been negative at all but rather a concern and I would like to share a few with you. 1) An individual announced to the church that is without a pastor that he/she had accepted the call to preach and would like the opportunity to preach an initial sermon. I was contacted regarding the proper procedure in this matter. 2) An individual was granted permission by the pastor and church to preach an initial sermon but before issuing the license, the church pulpit became vacant. Now the individual wants to know what to do to receive his/her license to preach. The church contacted me regarding this matter. 3) The associate minister has preached his initial sermon, received his/her license to preach and now the associate minister is interested in being ordained. The church is without a pastor so I was called to advise in this matter.

Another issue that I have been confronted with is this: How does the church and/or pulpit selection committee deal with associates and interim ministers who express interest in the pastoral vacancy at

the church? These are just a few that I wanted to share with you in this last article.

My first inclination was to just raise these issues with you but I know my curious readers are waiting to hear how I responded to these matters. So let me begin by just lifting up the total concerns. First of all, it is the church responsibility and obligation to license one to preach. Therefore, if a church is without a pastor, it would not be improper for the church to grant one the opportunity to deliver an initial sermon and issue the individual a license to preach. Having said that, I would hope that the church would impress upon and encourage the individual to wait until the church has a pastor on board. I would not want to receive a license to preach that was not signed by the pastor of the church. It will not hurt the individual to run just a little while longer before accepting the call. If the initial sermon was preached under the leadership of a pastor but before the license is issued and

the church is without a pastor, then in all fairness to the candidate, it is my belief that the church should issue the license to preach. Again, I take the same position

See MODERATOR, Page 16

835 Seven Lakes North
West End, North Carolina 27376
September 5, 2002

Dr. James W. Smith
146 Presidents Drive
Durham, North Carolina 27704

Dear Dr. Smith,

We appreciate your work in the election process of a new minister for First Calvary Baptist Church, Sanford, North Carolina.

In response to our conversation to your seeking the office of Vice President at Large of the GBSC of North Carolina, Inc., I am certainly in agreement with your campaign and I do look forward to supporting you in the upcoming election.

If I can be of further service to you, please feel free to call me.

Best wishes,

J. L. Morgan
J. L. Morgan

THE MINISTER'S COUNCIL CONTINUED

REPORT, Cont'd From Page 15

Ministry
 Ministry & Economic Development /
 Leadership Paradigm: 21st Century
 Strategies for Ministerial Leadership
 To Serve in This Present "Computer Age"
 / Building the Ministerial Library
 A New Paradigm for Ministerial
 Leadership / New Wine & New
 Wineskins: 21st Century Strategies for
 Ministerial Leadership / The Spiritual
 Life of the Minister/Pastor
 Also
 Special Sessions for Women in Ministry
 & for Young Ministers/Pastors
Conference Preacher:
Dr. J. Wendell Mapson – Pastor,
 Monumental Baptist Church,
 Philadelphia, PA
Conference Lecturers:
Dr. Yvonne Best – Lott Carey Foreign
 Mission Convention
Dr. Benjamin S. Baker – Pastor New
 Light Baptist Church, Detroit, MI

March 2001 – Field Session – Whiteville,
 NC
 Host – Brunswick Waccamaw
 Association, Rev. Leo Stevenson,
 Moderator

May 2001 – Mid-Year Session,
 Wilmington, NC
 Guest Presenter – Dr. Devoe Chapman,
 Brooklyn, New York

October 2001 – Annual Session GBSC –
 Asheville, NC
 Report/President's Address – Dr. Leonzo
 D. Lynch
 Guest Preacher – Dr. A. Russell Awkard,
 President Blue Grass Baptist Convention
 of Kentucky

February 14-16, 2002 – Special Year 2002
 Leadership Summit – Charlotte, NC
 Theme: "The Challenge is the Same:
 Reach the Masses"
 Sub-Theme: "Revitalizing & Empowering
 Ministerial Leadership"
 Topics Presented:

The Minister's Personal Finances / IRS
 Guidelines / How to Revitalize your
 Ministry
 Ministry & Economic Development /
 Leadership Paradigm: 21st Century
 Strategies for Ministerial Leadership
 To Serve in This Present "Computer Age"
 / Building the Ministerial Library
 A New Paradigm for Ministerial
 Leadership / New Wine & New
 Wineskins: 21st Century Strategies for
 Ministerial Leadership / The Spiritual
 Life of the Minister/Paster
 also
 Special Sessions for Women in Ministry
 & for Young Ministers/Pastors
Conference Preacher:
Dr. J. D. Ballard – Pastor, United
 Metropolitan Baptist Church, Winston-
 Salem, NC
Conference Lecturers:
Dr. William J. Flippin – Pastor, Greater
 Piney Grove Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA
Dr. Donald R. Hudson – Pastor, Mt.
 Olive Baptist Church, Indianapolis, IN
Dr. Charlene Hendricks – Pastor, Solid
 Rock Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC

Special Field Session – May 17-18, 2002
 Jones Chapel Baptist Church, Laurinburg,
 NC
 Rev. T. R. Davis, Host Pastor

Special Field Session – August 9-10,
 2002
 Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Clinton, NC,
 Dr. V. Fulwood, Pastor
 Rev. Marvin T. Clowney, Moderator
 Western United Baptist Association

In this administration we attempted to
 respond to several requests from within
 the convention to provide resources for an
 effective ministry. One area that has
 received special requests for assistance is
 the ministers' personal library. The fol-
 lowing additional books have been rec-
 ommended essential additions for an
 effective library; however, this is not an
 exhaustive listing.

George Barna, **Evangelism That
 Works: How to Reach Changing
 Generations with the Unchanging
 Gospel**
 (Regal Press, Ventura, CA 1995) ISBN
 0-8307-1776-5

George Barna, **The Second Coming of
 the Church: A Blueprint for Survival**
 (Word Publishing, Nashville, TN
 1998) ISBN 0-8499-1490-6

H. B. London & Neil Wiseman, **Your
 Pastor is an Endangered Species**
 (Victor Books, Wheaton, Ill 1996)
 ISBN 1-65476-585-7

John Maxwell, **The 21 Irrefutable Laws
 of Leadership**
 (Thomas Nelson Publishers,
 Nashville, TN 1998) ISBN 0-7852-7431-6

John Maxwell, **The 17 Indisputable
 Laws of Teamwork**
 (Thomas Nelson Publishers,
 Nashville, TN 2001) ISBN 0-7852-7434-0

John Maxwell, **The 21 Most Powerful
 Minutes in a Leaders Day**
 (Thomas Nelson Publishers,
 Nashville, TN 2000) ISBN 0-7852-7432-4

Dan Reiland, **Shoulder to Shoulder:
 Strengthening Your Church by
 Supporting Your Pastor**
 (Nelson Publishers, Nashville, TN
 1997) ISBN 0-7852-7248-8

Wes Roberts, **Support Your Local
 Pastor: Practical Ways to Encourage
 Your Minister**
 (Navpress, Colorado Springs,
 Colorado 1995) ISBN 0-89109-923-9

Thom & Joani Schultz, **Why Nobody
 Learns Much of Anything at Church:
 And How To Fix It**
 (Group Publishing Co., Loveland,
 Colorado 1993) ISBN 1-55945-907-7

E. Glen Wagner & Glen S. Martin, **Your**

**Pastor's Heart: Serving the One Who
 Serves You**
 (Moody Press, Chicago, IL 1998)
 ISBN 0-8024-3387-1

Rick Warren, **The Purpose Driven
 Church: Growing Without
 Compromising Your Message &
 Mission**
 (Zondervan Press, Grand Rapids, MI
 1995)

Barclay, William, **The Daily Study Bible
 Series – Genesis – Revelation**
 (Westminster Press, Philadelphia, PA
 1976) ISBN 0-664-24115-8

Norman H. Maring & Winthrop S.
 Hudson, **A Baptist Manual of Polity and
 Practice**
 (Judson Press, Valley Forge, PA 1991)
 ISBN 0-8170-1171-4

H. Beecher Hicks, Jr., **Preaching
 Through A Storm: Confirming the
 Power of Preaching in the Tempest of
 Church Conflict**
 (Zondervan Press, Grand Rapids, MI
 1987) ISBN 0-310-20091-1

Lyle E. Schaller, **Growing Plans:
 Strategies to Increase Your Church's
 Membership**
 (Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN 1983)
 ISBN 0-687-15962-8

G. Lloyd Rediger, **Clergy Killers:
 Guidance for Pastors and
 Congregations Under Attack**
 (Westminster John Knox Press,
 Louisville, KY 1997) ISBN 0-664-25753-4

Kenneth C. Haugk, **Antagonists in the
 Church: How to Identify and Deal with
 Destructive Conflict**
 (Augsburg Publishing House,
 Minneapolis, MN 1988) ISBN 0-8066-
 2310-1

Herbert G. May & Bruce M. Metzger,

See REPORT, Page 22

MODERATOR, Cont'd From Page 15

that the church should encourage the indi-
 vidual to wait until a pastor is called.

On the issue of ordination, my posi-
 tion is a little different. Although the
 church or association can ordain an indi-
 vidual, I strongly suggest that the church
 not ordain any individual in the absence
 of a pastor. If the church feels strongly
 about this issue and that she has the right
 to do so, I strongly suggest that the
 church contact the moderator of the asso-
 ciation where the church is affiliated and
 allow the moderator to take charge of the
 matter.

This last issue is a little more compli-
 cated. You will note that I have been
 against interim pastors being considered

for the pastoral vacancy. I am keenly
 aware that in some instances, the interim
 has been called as pastor and the relation-
 ship seems to be good. However, I believe
 this is the exception rather than the norm.
 However, it is the election process that is
 more troublesome to me than the call of
 interim and associate ministers. First of
 all, there is already an unfair advantage to
 any other ministers who are being consid-
 ered for the position. So, in all fairness to
 everyone involved, it would create less
 conflict if the church would make the
 decision to call or eliminate the interim
 and/or associate from consideration
 before proceeding further in the process.
 What I mean by this is, if the church
 senses that a majority or close to a major-
 ity desire to call the interim or the associ-

ate, then the church and/or pulpit selec-
 tion committee should first make that rec-
 ommendation to the church for considera-
 tion before considering others in the
 process.

As I have observed and considered the
 conflict issues within our churches, it is
 my belief that if we follow the position I
 have taken above, it will help solve con-
 flict within the church.

Again, thanks to all of you for allow-
 ing me to lift up and discuss issues raised
 by pastors and churches within our great
 convention. Many have been controversial
 but I do hope you appreciate my willing-
 ness to tackle them.

If you wish our services in any way,
 please contact us at the following:
 Dr. James W. Smith

Dr. James W. Smith
 146 President's Drive
 Durham, NC 27704
 (919) 479-0501
 jsmith9450@aol.com

Dr. Joshua J. Haire, Jr.
 P.O. Box 53803
 Fayetteville, NC 28305
 (910) 323-1508

Rev. W. J. Cox
 107 Gray Street
 Goldsboro, NC 27534
 (919) 751-9899

Biographical Sketch of Dr. John H. Grant Candidate for GBSC Vice President at Large - October, 2002

Dr. Grant is a native of Cross Hill, South Carolina, born the tenth of ten children to Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Grant, Sr. on July 7, 1954. He was converted, baptized, licensed and ordained into the Gospel Ministry at a young age at the Bethel Baptist Church in Cross Hill. At



Dr. John H. Grant

the age of 19, he was called to pastor his home church and served there for seven years. He served as pastor of the Shoal Creek Baptist Church of Shelby, NC for nine years (1980 – 1989). He has served as pastor of the Historic Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in downtown Asheville, NC since 1989, and the New Covenant Baptist Church of Shelby since 1999.

Under Dr. Grant's leadership, both Mount Zion and New Covenant are currently implementing *Operation Multiplication* – a discipleship training ministry teaching evangelism as a daily lifestyle, not merely as an occasional event. This biblical strategy emphasizes that the work of discipleship is never complete until the new convert becomes a disciple who in turn disciples others!

He has also led Mount Zion in a major capital improvement and economic development plan (the 6 & 4 Plan). Since the church is located in an officially designated blighted/redevelopment area, the plan's purpose is the improvement of the existing church facility, the acquisition and building of additional properties and facilities, for the expansion of the church's ministries to *more effectively reach people for Christ to the glory of God*. The church has invested more than one million dollars (over and above tithes and offerings) in social and economic development projects through this plan. He has also led New Covenant of Shelby in purchasing a building including 7.5 acres of land for new church construction.

Since 1997, Dr. Grant has served as Founding President and CEO of the Mount Zion Community Development,

Incorporated ("MZCD"), a 501(c)(3) non-profit community redevelopment corporation organized under the State of North Carolina, whose mission is focused on empowerment of the individual and community. With six staff positions, MZCD operates three programs: (1) Project Nurturing Asheville and Area Families ("NAF") – *"working to help African American women have healthy babies and reduce the minority infant mortality rate"*; (2) The Elizabeth Grant Hill Campus of Learners: Center for Health, Technology, and Entrepreneurship – *"working to bridge the digital divide in our communities"*; and (3) Real Estate Development for housing and office complex – *"working to provide economic opportunities and eliminate blight"*. Since 1998, the church's non-profit corporation has raised and invested an additional \$800,000.00 for community projects. Project NAF was recently cited in Asheville as a national model, and is scheduled to be showcased again nationally later this year in Orlando. Campus of Learners was also cited as the *"2001 Faith-Based Initiative of the Year"* by the North Carolina Association of Community Development Corporations.

Dr. Grant serves as President of the Cleveland County Community Coalition ("CCCC"), a coalition of churches organized to address the need for jobs, housing, crime prevention, education and health care in the Shelby/Cleveland County community. He serves and has served on the board of directors of many civic and community-based organizations. He is Vice President and one of the founding board members of Community Outreach, Incorporated, which owns and operates Asheville's *Little Angels Child Development Center*, a state certified and licensed center serving more than 100 families and children and providing 20 jobs. Community Outreach, Incorporated has provided for the last 10 years a 9-week all day Community Summer Camp, serving parents, children and youth (ages 5-14) of the community. This Camp is currently state certified and supported by local city and county government and provides an average of 10 full-time summer jobs.

From 1994-1997 he served as the first and founding Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of the Eagle/Market Streets Development Corporation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit endorsed by the City of Asheville *"for the purpose of facilitating the physical redevelopment"* of the South Pack Square Redevelopment Area, and led the organization in securing a quarter of a million dollars in grant funds. The organization has now been awarded more than two

million dollars in support of its various programs. He is past President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Asheville and Vicinity. He is past Vice President and President of Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry ("ABCCM"), a 501(c)(3) organization providing to the poor and under-served *Shelter, Medical, Jail/Prison, Crisis, Leadership, and Home Repair Ministries*. In 1996 ABCCM had a total operating budget, including in-kind services, of \$3,584,992.00.

Dr. Grant holds a BA degree from Benedict College in Columbia, SC; a Master of Divinity degree from Colgate Rochester/Bexley Hall/Crozer Theological Seminary in Rochester, New York; and a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Atlanta Theological Association through Erskine Theological Seminary. Additionally, Dr. Grant currently serves as First Vice President of the 500,000 member General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina; and Chairman of the Cleveland County Community Coalition, an organization of churches in Cleveland County addressing community needs.

He has served the General Baptist State Convention for the past 22 years in the following capacities: Executive Committee and General Board, Assistant and Recording Secretary, Third Vice President, Second Vice President, and First Vice President. He also served as an Instructor in the Department of Religion and Philosophy, Asheville's Shaw

University CAPE Center, 1991-2000.

Dr. Grant is the recipient of many honors and awards including, but not limited to, the following: (1) voted in August of 1995 as one of Buncombe County's *"100 Most Influential People"* by an Asheville Citizen Times Survey, ranking number 55 out of 100; (2) voted *"1993 Minority Enterprise Week Minister of the Year"*, (3) honored with *"Certificates of Special Congressional Recognition"* in 1993 and 1995 from the office of U. S. Congressman Charles Taylor for *"outstanding and invaluable service to the Asheville Community"*, and (4) honored by the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance and the Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry with the Martin Luther King, Jr. *"2001 Church of the Year"* award for *"reflecting the spiritual values of Dr. King's stand for social and economic justice, the empowerment of others, and the sacrifice of time and resources to benefit the impoverished and disenfranchised of our community."* Dr. Grant is married to the former Belinda Kennedy of Laurens, S. C., and they have two children, Kontia and John Jr.

He is *Divinely Certified, Uniquely Qualified, and Sincerely Committed* to continue his service to this Convention as Vice President At Large – with your prayers, support, and vote, which he humbly solicits. To God he gives all the glory through Jesus Christ our Lord. ■

ELECTION NEWS IMPORTANT UPDATE

135TH ANNUAL SESSION REPRESENTATION AND REGISTRATION

CHURCH REPRESENTATION - Each GBSC, Inc. Session we ask Associations and Churches to REPRESENT with a stewardship contribution to support the "work" and State Missions. In October 2002, we have asked each Association and Church to give at least \$300.00. We need as many of you as possible to go beyond this amount!

VOTING REGISTRATION - Each GBSC, Inc. election year, (every four years), churches are required by our constitution to register voting messengers with an enrollment fee. The amount is based on the number of members in your congregation. SEE Article X, Sections A & B. The fee includes an official voting badge and kit for the voting messengers. **(VOTING REGISTRATION IS THE ONLY REQUIREMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTION PROCESS)**.

NON-VOTING REGISTRATION - Those messengers from your churches that will not be voting in the election. Their badges and kits will be \$10.00 each.

VISITORS and GUEST REGISTRATION will be \$10.00.

Please PRE-REGISTER your church voting messengers. They will be certified and must be present, October 30, 2002, to vote in the election. **ONE PERSON - ONE VOTE**, there will be no proxy voting. If you have any questions please call Dr. Archie D. Logan, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC, 27601-2338, 800-639-GBSC, 919-821-7466, 919-836-0061 fax.

HIGHLIGHTS



Dr. Archie D. Logan, The Honorable Eva Clayton



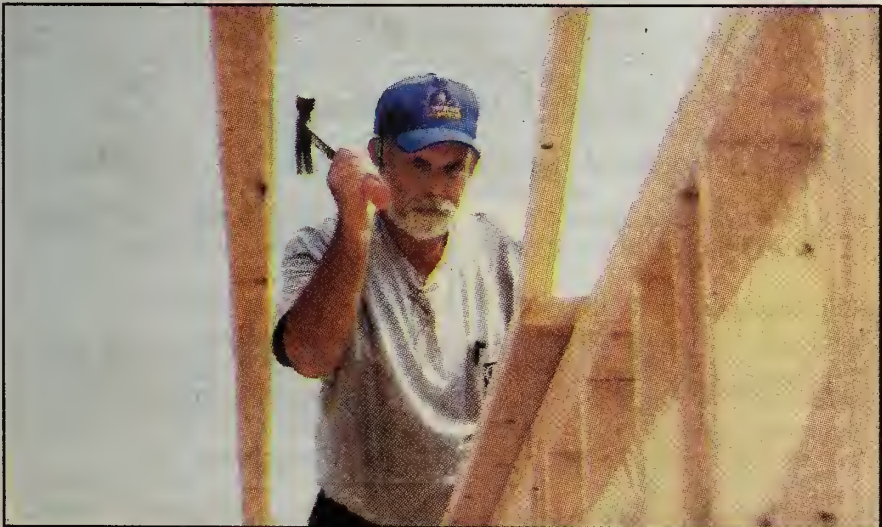
Dr. Archie Logan, Dr. Thurman Everett



George Sanders, Jarvis Morgan, John Gladden



HIGHLIGHTS



GBSC ELECTIONS PROCEDURES

REVEREND REGINALD A. WELLS, Chairman, Election Committee
 REVEREND CHARLES WALTON, Chairman, Registration Committee
 REVEREND F. O. BASS, Chairman, Nomination Committee

Ballot Preparation:

- The election will be on October 30, 2002, in Fayetteville, North Carolina
- A punch card ballot will be used for the election.
- An official ballot will be created and sent to the printer.
- Sample ballots will be printed and published in the Baptist Informer prior to the October election. Enough ballots will be prepared and ordered to accommodate a possible run-off.

Voting Place:

- The election will be held at the Cumberland County Coliseum complex, in Fayetteville, North Carolina.
- Only persons who have been certified by the Registration Committee will be permitted in the voting area.
- **The deadline for pre-registration voting forms to Baptist Headquarters is October 16, 2002.**
- **MANDATORY** – All voter registration forms must be signed by either the Pastor, Chairman of the Deacon Board, or Church Clerk.
- **On site registration for voting messengers will end promptly at 11 a.m., October 30, 2002.**
- Each certified messenger will be permitted to cast ballots.
- If you spoil your ballot, you will notify the voter assistants and request a new one.
- Once a ballot has been spoiled it will be secured in a sealed box, and not counted as an official ballot.
- **NO LOST VOTER REGISTRATION BADGES WILL BE REPLACED!!!**
- If you are a voting messenger and you need assistance, persons from the Election Committee will assist you.
- Magnifying glasses, magnifying sheets, for the visually handicapped will be provided.
- There will be a booth provided for those messengers who are physically handicapped.

Voter Assistants (Tellers):

- Persons from the Election Committee will serve as voter assistants (tellers).
- The voter assistants (tellers) will only assist persons when they are asked to do so.
- These persons will not encourage the voter to vote for a particular person.

Other Information:

- The Election results will be given after the official election.
- If there should be a run-off, this will take place on the evening of October 30, 2002.
- All candidates and their support staff can campaign outside the voting area.
- **THERE WILL BE NO CAMPAIGNING IN THE VOTING AREA!!!!**

Special Offering for President Fuller

By Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.

Executive Secretary Treasurer, GBSC, Inc.

Greetings! Over the previous four years, President Fuller has served this Convention admirably. Under his capable leadership, the members of our Convention responded in a tremendous way in the wake of hurricane Floyd. The "ministry lights" that he has turned on will continue to shine long after his departure. The Scriptures have admonished us that: "the laborer is worthy of his, or her hire." And, in light of President Fuller's dedicated and devoted service we are planning to take up a special offering to say thank you for your faithfulness. I am asking that each member of this great Convention give as God has prospered you to God's manservant. We should let President Fuller know that his labor was not in vain, and as a Convention THANK HIM collectively. I want to encourage you to continue supporting the "work."

Plan now to attend our Annual Session, October 27-31, 2002, in Fayetteville, NC. The Special Offering will take place on Tuesday, October 29th, at the Annual Session. In addition our special guest speaker will be Dr. William J. Shaw, President National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., who will be addressing Conventioneers during the Presidents Hour.

Thanks, and may God continue to bless you! ■

GBSC 135th Annual Session

By Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

Greetings and Peace! We are extending a special invitation and reminder to you. Please make plans to attend our **GBSC 135th Annual Session**, October 27-31, 2002, at the Cumberland County Coliseum Complex in Fayetteville. The host church is Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, 118 Johnson Street, (910) 868-2770, Reverend Carl E. Brinkley, Jr., Pastor.

THIS IS A SPECIAL ELECTION YEAR, YOUR VOTE AND VOICE MAKE A DIFFERENCE, PLEASE PLAN TO BE WITH US!

Registration forms and information about the Annual Session were enclosed in your ANNUAL SESSION MAILING. Pastors please plan to attend the session with your voting messengers.

Pray for our continued success God continues to "Bless our Work". If you have any questions please call Baptist Headquarters. ■

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

2002

CHURCH VOTING ELECTION FEE REQUIREMENTS

135th ANNUAL SESSION

CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE OF \$300.00

EACH CHURCH SHALL PAY **REGISTRATION FEE**
 BASED ON POPULATION OF CHURCH -- PLEASE SEE GBSC
 CONSTITUTION -- ARTICLE X.

VOTING MESSENGERS ARE DETERMINED BY GBSC CONSTITUTION
 ARTICLE X.

EXAMPLE:

CHURCH REPRESENTATION FEE	\$300.00
CHURCH VOTING REGISTRATION FEE (BASED ON CHURCH POPULATION -- ARTICLE X) church fee of \$35.00 entitles church to 3 voting messengers	35.00
TOTAL	\$335.00

ALL VOTING MESSENGERS WILL RECEIVE A VOTING BADGE AND KIT

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF GBSC ELECTION FORMS TO
 GBSC HEADQUARTERS - OCTOBER 21, 2002**

* All non-voting messengers shall pay \$10.00 registration fee.

Hotel Information

GBSC Annual Session October 27-31, 2002

Fayetteville Hotels
I-95, Exit 49 (Hwy 53)

**Hotels nearest Cumberland County
 Coliseum Complex**

GBSC Headquarters Hotel
Radisson Prince Charles (910) 433-4444
 450 Hay Street
 Fayetteville, NC
 Double & Single rooms \$70.00

Sheraton (910) 323-8282
 1965 Cedar Creek Rd.
 Fayetteville, NC
 Single & Double Rooms \$75.00 – Jr.
 Suite \$82.00
 Deadline September 27, 2002

Comfort Inn (910) 867-1777 – Double & Single \$65.00
 1922 Skibo Rd.
 Fayetteville, NC

Sleep Inn (910) 433-9090
 1515 Cedar Creek Rd.
 Fayetteville, NC
 Single & Double Rooms \$53.00
 Deadline September 27, 2002

Holiday Inn Bordeaux (910) 323-0111 – Double & Single \$72.00
 1707 Owen Dr.
 Fayetteville, NC

Fairfield Inn (910) 433-2666
 1925 Cedar Creek Rd.
 Fayetteville, NC
 Single & Double Rooms \$69.25
 Deadline October 15, 2002

Days Inn (910) 483-6191
 2065 Cedar Creek Rd.
 Fayetteville, NC 28301
 Single & Double Rooms \$50.00
 Deadline September 27, 2002

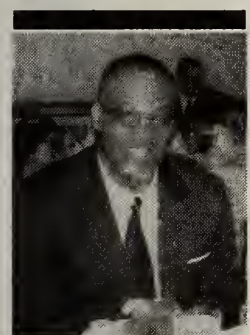
Do You See It?

INSTITUTIONAL & SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman
Jeff Locus, Co-Chairman

*"For I am about to do a brand-new thing. See, I have already begun! Do you see it?
I will make a pathway through the wilderness for my people to come home.
I will create rivers for them in the desert."
Isaiah 43:19*

I believe the Spirit of God is calling the Church to make serious reforms in our outreach ministry efforts in this new millennium. The reforms have to be made in our efforts to reach, reconcile and restore human lives. Many churches are existing only for the sake of themselves, the building and self-serving programs. I call this "institutionalized Christianity". We are experiencing drastic changes in every area of society. In the spiritual realm, the Holy Spirit is inspiring new leaders to lead the church away from institutional Christianity, toward innovative outreach ministries. I know in my own heart the Holy Spirit is calling the church to abandon dead traditions and ineffective ministry. Only as we repent, can we be led into innovative and vibrant ministries that are impacting human lives



Rev. Michael Smith, Sr.

for Christ. New congregations are being birthed everywhere as the Holy Spirit is working in the hearts of people. I can testify this is true in my own ministry. In ministry to lives impacted by crime and incarceration, I have been shown the Lord is seeking to establish his presence right in the midst of the most unlikely places. One of those places is within the prison itself. I praise Him for loosing me from traditional ministry models and the elementary understanding of the church's identity and mission. Isaiah prophesied, "For I am about to do a new thing." Part of that new thing for me is to use the church behind prison walls to be a catalyst for revival in our state. Yes, the Lord Jesus Christ did not leave out persons in prison when he said, "I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it." Our recent 2nd Annual Crime and Incarceration Conference bore witness to the Lord's new thing He is doing in the lives of the church incarcerated at the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, N. C. My prayer is those who saw what the Lord is doing will be a catalyst in this state to use fresh approaches to reach, reconcile and restore human lives. I thank Him for opening the doors of this prison complex to host our statewide conference. I know His purpose for doing so was to show He is doing a brand-new thing. The only question I have for you reading this article is, DO YOU SEE IT? If you cannot see it, come outside away from the institutionalized church long enough to see the brand-new thing He is doing in the prisons. Hallelujah! ■

GBSC 2002 - 2006 CANDIDATES

REVEREND F. O. BASS, CHAIRMAN, NOMINATION COMMITTEE
REVEREND REGINALD A. WELLS, CHAIRMAN, ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
REVEREND CHARLES WALTON, CHAIRMAN, REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

DR. CHARLES BULLOCK
MARTIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH

DR. J. C. HARRIS
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
STATESVILLE

VICE PRESIDENT-AT-LARGE
REV. JIMMY L. GILCHRIST
ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH
ABERDEEN

DR. JOHN GRANT
MT. ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
ASHEVILLE

DR. JAMES W. SMITH
MT. CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
BAHAMA

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
DR. HOWARD PARKER
SYCAMORE HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
GREENVILLE

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
REV. NILOUS M. AVERY
MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
SALISBURY

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT
REV. SPENCER E. HARDAWAY
ROCK HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
ASHEVILLE

DR. LEONZO LYNCH
EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE

REV. VINCENT TERRY
MOUNT PEACE BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH

FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT
REV. RICKY BANKS
ST. STEPHEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
ELIZABETH CITY

HISTORIAN
DR. JASPER REED
SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
ELIZABETH CITY

PARLIAMENTARIAN
DR. J. RAY BUTLER
UNITED CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
WINSTON-SALEM

RECORDING SECRETARY
DR. GLORIA GERALD
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
WINSTON-SALEM

STATISTICIAN
DR. A. T. GRIFFEY, II
MT. CAMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST, WINSTON-SALEM & PENTECOSTAL LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST
KERNERSVILLE

ASSISTANT RECORDING SECRETARY

CLORISTER/MUSICIAN

SOLOIST

INSTITUTIONAL & SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES LEADERSHIP

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman
Senior Chaplain/Pastor – Federal Correctional Complex, Butner, NC
Jeff Locus, Co-Chairman
Chaplain/Pastor – Pamlico Correctional Institution, Bayboro, NC
Betty Brown, Coordinator of In-Prison Ministries
Chaplain/Pastor – NC Correctional Institution for Women, Raleigh, NC
Wright Cadwell, Coordinator of In-Prison Ministries
Associate Minister – First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
Paul Bridges, Coordinator of Aftercare Ministries
Associate Minister – First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
Carolyn Brown, Coordinator of Aftercare Ministries
Associate Minister – North End Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, NC
Laura Johnson, Coordinator of Victim Ministries
Assistant Pastor – First Baptist Church, Zebulon, NC
Leonard Shadding, Coordinator of Victim Services
Member – First African Baptist Church, Goldsboro, NC
Michael Pope, Coordinator At-Risk Youth Ministries
Associate Minister – Oak City Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
Wavey B. Williams, Coordinator of At-Risk Youth Ministries
Youth Pastor – A.R.M.Y. of CHRIST Ministry, Gastonia, NC

POWERCHURCH PLUS

Church Administration Software
www.CapitalComputing.com

Membership Profiles
Pictorial Directories
Activities & Skills
Attendance
Visitation
Ministry Services
Church Mailing List
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ELECTION NEWS



GBSC General Election Form 2002

October 30, 2002



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Church Phone Number: _____

Pastor's Signature: _____

Number of Members: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Article 10, Section A & B of GBSC Constitution 2002

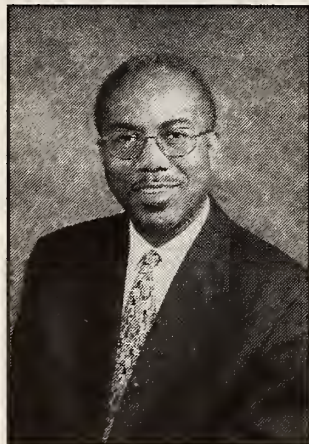
Church Size	# of Messengers	Cost\$
0-50	02	\$20.00
51-100	03	\$35.00
101-250	04	\$50.00
251-500	05	\$75.00
501-750	06	\$100.00
751-1000	07	\$125.00
1001-Up	08	\$150.00

Mail to: Baptist Headquarters - 603 S. Wilmington Street - Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Messenger First / Last Name	Messenger Address	City / State	Zip Code
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			
6)			
7)			
8)			

Substitute First / Last Name	Substitute Address	City / State	Zip Code
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TO
SERVING GOD AND
THE GBSC of NC

ANNIVERSARY, Cont'd From Page 12

Pastor, First Philadelphia Christian Center and Founder, CEO of NC Assoc. for Women in Ministry, Inc.; Rev. Claude Dunston, Chaplain of FACES and Franklin County Missionary Union (speaking to both Rev. and Deacon Solomon, the First Gentleman); and, The Installation Prayer by Dr. J. C. Harris, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Statesville, NC and 1st Vice-President of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc.

Pastor Solomon received the Bible from Deacon James Bert Egerton, Chairman, and the keys to the church from Deacon John Driver. But then it

came time for remarks from our Pastor, Rev. Emma P. Solomon, and she began with "To God be the Glory, To God be the Glory" just before she offered a dance to the Lord. Pastor Solomon acknowledged her family's presence. She extended thanks to the "people on the right and left; the people in front and the people in back" hoping not to leave anyone out! Concluding "To God be the Glory, Hallelujah!"

Visit us when you're in Franklin County and hear our Pastor continue to proclaim The Word of God as she preaches the truth "in season and out of season".

ELECTION YEAR

135th Annual Session

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FORM

DR. JOHN D. FULLER, SR., PRESIDENT GBSC DR. ARCHIE D. LOGAN, JR., EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TREASURER

OCTOBER 27 - 31, 2002

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DEADLINE - SEPTEMBER 27, 2002

From the Office of the Third Vice President of GBSC Shaw University and Shaw Divinity News

By Reverend N. T. Davis

Greetings, from God our Father and His only son Jesus. Fall is just a few days away, you can feel the changes in the air, so all Praise to our God who has brought



Rev. N. T.
Davis

us through another season of the year. Peace be unto you. May His Saving Grace be yours.

Things at Shaw University and the Divinity are going well, the fall term is well on its way. I always speak to the

President's office and the Dean's office.

Let us Praise our God for the bridge that brought us over, let us keep focused on the things that are before us. It is budget time in most of the churches of the convention. Please put Shaw University and the Divinity School on your list.

God has blessed us with one of the finest Universities in the world, yet it needs our daily attention. Pray for the university and the student body, faculty,

staff and President.

At the end of October I will cease to write as the Third Vice President. I have enjoyed saying a few words of greeting and encouragement to the Baptist Family for the past four years as fourth and third vice president of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc.

It is my prayer that God will smile upon you and shower His blessings on you from day to day. I will bless the Lord at all time and His Praise shall continually be in my mouth.

I have retired after twenty-five years of pastoral work and about forty-five years of public work at UNC Hospital and IBM, Raleigh. God has richly blessed my whole life.

If I may be of service to any church or an Association, or Union, please feel free to call on me. Thanks for all of the support down through the years.

Again God has opened many doors for me that only He can close. I will still be present at the Convention across the state. God bless you all for the great things He has done. To God be the Glory. If I am needed, call (919) 362-7057.

Go Bears Go!

Shaw Announces New Master's Program

(Raleigh, NC) – July 22, 2002 – President Talbert O. Shaw has led Shaw University to yet another milestone. In the fall 2001, the Board of Trustees gave approval for the Shaw University Divinity School to move forward with the development of the new Master of Religious Education (MRE) degree to be offered in the fall of 2002. Under the leadership of Dr. James T. Roberson, Jr., Dean of the Shaw University Divinity School, the Master of Religious Education Program was developed and approved by both the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Association of Theological Schools and is set to begin in the Fall. Dr. Titus Haynes, retired professor of Religious Education, was instrumental in the development of this new degree program. The Master of Divinity Degree program has stood as the only degree program in the Divinity School

since 1969. President Shaw brought Dean Roberson on board in the spring of 2000 with the hopes of moving the Divinity School forward. Dean Roberson has worked tirelessly to promote the Divinity School and to plan for its future growth. President Shaw and Dean Roberson are both proud to announce this new Master of Religious Education Degree Program. Through this degree program students will gain an understanding of the educational, social, and behavioral sciences that undergird educational practice, as well as the cultural context in which educational ministry occurs. Students will also develop the capacity for critical and constructive theological reflection regarding the content and processes of educational ministry. In addition, they will develop skills in teaching and in the design, administra-

See PROGRAM, Page 22

Shaw University Divinity School Wins Grant Award

Shaw University Divinity School (SUDS) has received a one-year N. C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety Governor's Crime Commission 2002 Grant Award in the amount of \$164,000 to address the issue of domestic violence in the African American and faith communities.

According to Dr. James T. Roberson, Jr., Dean of the Divinity School and serving as Project Director, this project will develop training modules to be used in all communities of faith to address problems of domestic abuse and violence in the African American community. Through research, education, and awareness, this project will attempt to reduce the incidences of domestic abuse and violence in the African American community.

The Domestic Abuse and Violence Prevention project (DAVP) Project staff includes Reverend Rosalind Polston as Project Manager, Reverend Evelyn Teasley, Project Liaison, and Donna Hawkins as Field Coordinator. The proj-

ect will operate primarily in the Research Triangle Park (RTP) area and will serve the broader ecumenical faith community. "This project will not discriminate based on religious preference, nor will it require membership in a given denomination to be eligible to participate," says Reverend Polston.

According to Reverend Polston the project goals are (1) to develop an all-inclusive faith-based curriculum to address the issue of domestic abuse and violence prevention, which will, (2) raise the level of consciousness in the faith community on the issue of domestic abuse and violence, and thereby (3) reduce the incidences of domestic abuse and violence against African American women in the RTP areas.

The DAVP Project began August 1, 2002 at Shaw University Divinity School and will also include the use of college interns to collect data, conduct needs assessments and assist in the research and evaluation of the project. ■



DAVP Staff (left to right): Reverend Evelyn Teasley, Project Liaison; Dr. James Roberson, Jr., Project Director, and Reverend Rosalind Polston, Project Manager. (Not pictured is Donna Hawkins, Field Coordinator)

Save the Date!

A Musical Tribute and Retirement Celebration
honoring Dr. Talbert Oscall Shaw
The 12th President of Shaw University
Sunday evening
The Twenty Fourth Day of November
Two Thousand Two
The BTi Center for the Performing Arts
Raleigh Memorial Auditorium

Featuring

The Shaw University Choir
Dr. James Abbington, Director
The Morgan State University Choir
Dr. Nathan M. Carter, Director
Accompanied by the Raleigh Symphony Orchestra

919-546-8300

Proceeds to Benefit the Talbert O. Shaw Scholarship Endowment Fund

PROGRAM, Cont'd From Page 21

tion, and assessment of educational programming. Lastly, the program will promote growth in personal and spiritual maturity.

The two-year MRE degree program is designed to assist teachers and church workers in the educational ministries of the church. Some of the required courses include:

- Philosophy of Christian Education
- Systematic Theology
- Church History
- Psychology of Religious Learning
- Technology for Religious Teachers
- Church Administration
- Women in Western Religious History
- Ethics
- Pastoral Counseling

A total of 66 credit hours are required for graduation. Classes are held on

Tuesdays, Friday evenings, and Saturdays. The MRE degree program will be offered at the Raleigh campus and at the University's Winston-Salem site along with the currently available Master of Divinity degree (MDiv). Requirements for admission include an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution, two references, a two-page essay, and an application fee. For more information, call 919-546-8570. In addition, an application can be accessed from Shaw University's Web site at www.shawuniversity.edu.

Founded in 1865, Shaw University is the oldest historically Black institution of higher learning in the South. Since 1987, Shaw University has been under the leadership of Dr. Talbert O. Shaw whose leadership pursues the theme, "Strides to Excellence: Why Not the Best?" ■

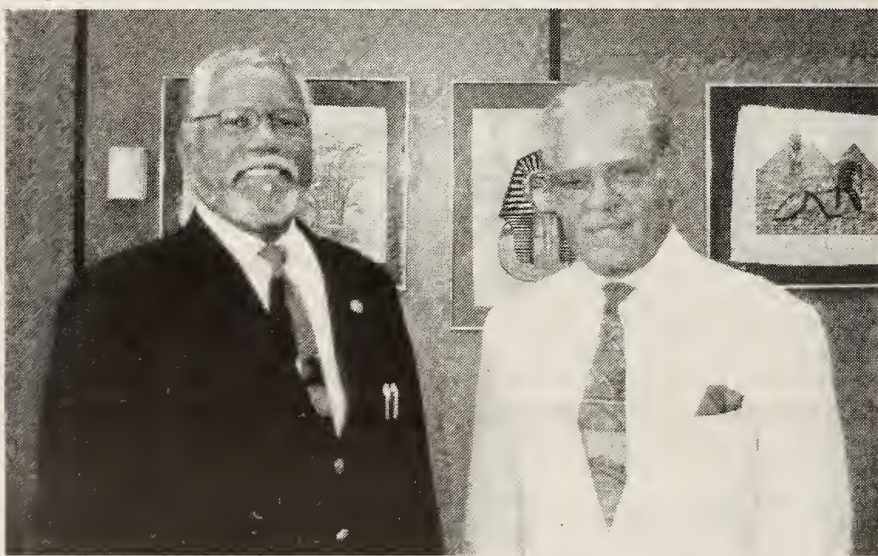
Shaw University NASA Summer Program Holds Closing Ceremony

Raleigh, NC – (July 15, 2002) — The closing ceremony of the NASA-PACE/MSET Summer Program was held this summer on the campus of Shaw University. One of the major objectives of the pre-college program, which is funded with a grant from NASA, was to motivate middle school students to: develop an interest in Mathematics, Science, Engineering, and Technology areas and pursue high school and college studies in these areas. The project was implemented in collaboration with Selma Middle School in Johnston County, NC, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Students were

involved in classroom instruction, field trips, and special projects.

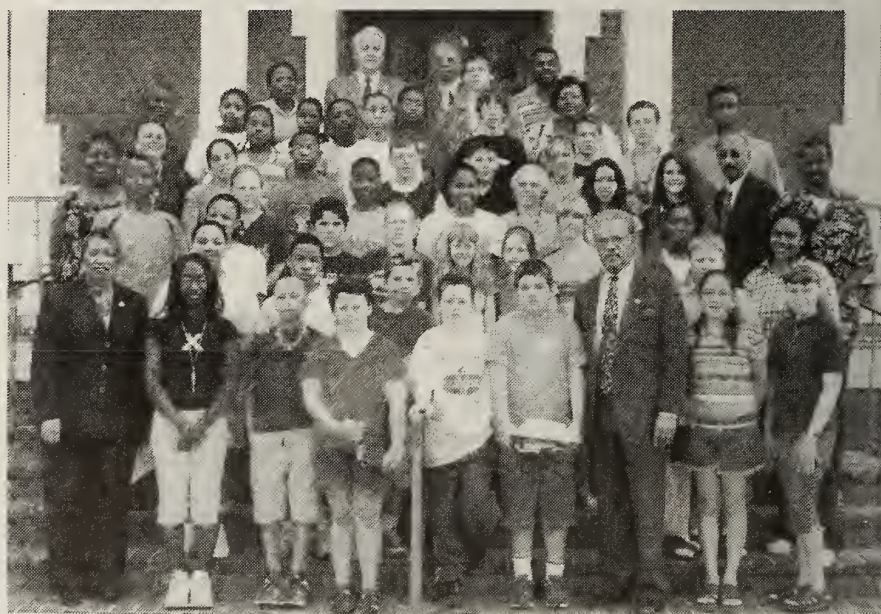
Dr. Talbert O. Shaw, President of Shaw University, was the keynote speaker for the closing ceremony. In addition, Selma Middle School students made presentations.

Shaw University, founded in 1865, is the oldest historically Black institution of higher learning in the South. Since 1987, the University has been under the leadership of President Talbert O. Shaw. President Shaw's leadership pursues the theme: "Strides to Excellence: Why Not the Best?" ■



Dr. J. T. Roberson

Dr. Talbert O. Shaw



REPORT, Cont'd From Page 16

Editors, **The New Oxford Annotated Bible With The Apocrypha: Revised Standard Version**

(Oxford University Press, New York, NY 1973, 1977) Library of Congress Catalogue #72-97494

Frank S. Mead, **Handbook of Denominations In The United States** (Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN 1985) ISBN 0-687-16571-7

Cruden's **Concordance** (Barbour Book, Uhrichsville, OH 1987) ISBN 1-55748-015 X

Helmut Thielicke, **The Waiting Father: 16 Parables by Jesus Interpreted for Today** (Harper & Row, San Francisco, CA 1957) ISBN 0-06-067991-3

Madeleine S. Miller & J. Lane Miller, **The New Harper's Bible Dictionary** (Harper & Row, Publishers, San Francisco, CA 1973) ISBN 0-06-065673-5

LaRue, Cleophus J., **The Heart of Black Preaching**

(Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, KY 2000) ISBN 0-664-25847-6

It is the aim of this Council to assist the ministers of our great GBSC of NC. We must come together in an effort to unite pulpit and pew in effective Kingdom business. The Pastoral Mission of caring for the souls of the members must be linked with the efforts of the laity. When we can come together in a unified effort to serve this present age, the church of Jesus Christ will indeed be strengthened.

Please pray for this work and continue to help whenever possible. Thank You.

Our efforts toward the Kingdom of God can be seen in this testimony. The following testimony was first seen on the wall of a Pastor's home in rural Africa. Appreciation and thanks are given to the unknown author. The writer captures for us the true level of commitment we must make to God and to the Kingdom of God.

"I am a part of the 'fellowship of the unashamed'. I have Holy Spirit power. The dye has been cast. I've stepped over

the line. The decision has been made. I am a disciple of His. I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away or be still. My past is redeemed, my present makes sense and my future is secure. I am finished and done with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking, chincy giving and dwarfed goals!

"I no longer need pre-eminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded or rewarded. I now live by Presence, lean by faith, love by patience, lift by prayer and labor by power.

"My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions few, my Guide reliable, my mission clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, diluted or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

"I won't give up, shut up, let up or burn up till I've preached up, prayed up,

paid up, stored up and stayed up for the cause of Christ.

"I am a disciple of Jesus. I must go till He comes, give till I drop and preach till everyone knows.

"And when He comes to get His own, He'll have no problems recognizing me...my colors will be clear.

"That makes it clear, doesn't it?"

H. B. London, Jr. & Neil B. Wiseman, **The Heart of a Great Pastor** (Regal Press, Ventura, CA 1994) p. 219/ISBN 0-8307-1674-2 ■

To our General Baptist Family:

Believe it or not, our opportunity to select the leadership of our beloved convention is just around the corner. Thanks to the vision and leadership of our current president, we are poised to move into different levels of ministry that will challenge each of us to a deeper commitment. We will need leadership that is under girded by commitment, experience and vision. J. C. Harris is comprised of all of the above and more. He has demonstrated his ability to handle adversity while maintaining his commitment to General Baptist causes. J. C. is skillful at blending the wisdom of the seasoned with the energy and zeal of youth. He is not afraid to find new ways of doing old things without being exclusive.

We invite you to join the growing list of those who have recognized the need for the type of leadership J. C. offers. Please consider contributing to the Harris campaign by committing your support to our cause. Your financial contributions are gladly accepted also. Please note our contact information below.

May God Continue to bless you on your faith journey.

In His service,

Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
Pastor, St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C. and Co-Campaign Coordinator

Campaign Coordinators & Supporters
Dr. G. K. Moss, Chairman

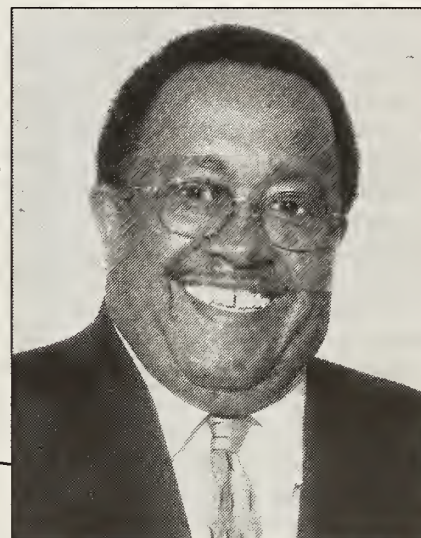
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James Webster

DR. J. C. HARRIS
For President of the
General Baptist State Convention, Inc.
of North Carolina

*Retooling the Church
for the 21st Century*



Dear General Baptist Family:

This year marks a very important time in the history of our General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. Our Convention exists in a time where there is unrest and a failing of hope all across the globe. Yet it is no accident that our Convention is poised as the Nation's strongest and most unified state convention. What Dickens said seems very true: "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times."

Times like these call for experienced and prepared leadership. It is for that cause and that cause alone – that I offered myself for President of our General Baptist Family. This letter is my way of contacting you personally to ask for your prayers, your support, and your votes.

If you have been involved in the life of our Convention, then it is very likely that you know me and know of my forty-seven (47) years of service to the Baptist life in North Carolina. I think, however, that my past achievements are not as important as my future work. My ad in the back of this publication will detail in small portion – my ideas about both the immediate and long-term future of our convention. I hope that this will cause you to think deeply about our future and stimulate further conversation and idea sharing between you and me. Your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions are very welcome.

Please let me hear from you. You may contact me at (704) 873-1732 (office), (704) 872-6880 (home), or fax me at (704) 871-2101 or mobile at (704) 450-7115.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with Churches in your area. Please let me know of any gatherings where I might visit and share my Campaign's Promise. Also, please know that getting my message across the state is an expensive proposition. Your financial support is needed and should be addressed to: Dr. C. V. Owens, 701 Archdale Drive, Charlotte, N. C. 28202 – payable to Harris for President.

Thank you for your sterling leadership in this state. Your example of Pastoral and Community leadership is a standard that all of us would do well to copy in our own venues of service.

Yours for a brighter Baptist future,

JCHarris

J. C. Harris, Candidate for President
Pastor, The First Baptist Church, Inc.
464 Garfield Street
Statesville, NC 28677
Dr. G. K. Moss, Chairman
Dr. George Cook – Co-Chairman
Dr. C. V. Owens, Treasurer



Baptist Camp



Dr. J. C. Harris and Nickie Trotter demonstrating floating on the water



Dr. J. C. Harris teaching children how to dog paddle

College Credit: Don't dig yourself into debt with your first credit card

By Attorney General Roy Cooper

Students arriving on college and university campuses across North Carolina are getting ready to start a new semester. And on many of these campuses, they're arriving to find credit card offers that sound like quick and easy ways to get a free T-shirt, coffee mug or tote bag. While the process may seem simple – fill out a form, get your freebie plus credit for life – signing up for a credit card is serious business. Before you take that T-shirt, take some time to study the facts about credit cards so that you can make an informed decision.

On the plus side, credit cards can offer a number of benefits. They are particularly helpful for emergencies, and can also help you establish a credit history.

But if you are a careless charger, you might end up digging yourself into a financial hole instead of building up good credit. Sometimes using a credit card is easy because it seems like it isn't real money. But when statements arrive with the unpaid balance and interest piling up,

card users realize that the debt they are accumulating is very real. More than one out of every five undergraduates who have credit cards owe between \$3,000 and \$7,000. From freshman year to graduation, students double their average credit card debt and triple the number of credit cards in their wallets.

Excessive credit card debt can create long-term problems that may hamper buying a car, taking out a mortgage or even getting a job. High debt can cause stress that forces reduced class loads or even dropping out of school to pay off debts. One University of Indiana administrator commented, "We lose more students to credit card debt than to academic failure."

Before you apply for a credit card, do your homework

- **Shop around.** The card that looks the coolest or offers the best free item may not be the best credit card for you. Remember, a free T-shirt isn't worth seven years of bad credit.
- **Compare interest rates.** There is a wide range of difference. Be sure to read the fine print about how the rate can change.

• **Don't fall for a tease.** Some credit cards offer a low teaser rate as a special introductory offer. After the first few months, the rate may jump significantly.

• **Learn how quickly it adds up.** Most credit card companies do not charge interest on purchases if you pay the balance before the due date on the statement. This is called the grace period. Other companies, however, may charge interest from the date of purchase. Select a card that offers a grace period to avoid paying more interest. And remember that most all credit cards charge interest on cash advances from the date of the advance, with no grace period.

• **Avoid the "extra" fees.** Many credit cards charge late fees, over-the-limit fees and extra fees on cash advances. These "add-on" fees can make for an expensive credit card.

• **Protect your privacy.** Read the card's privacy policy, which should give you a way to opt out of the company selling your personal information to other businesses. This will help cut down on the number of pre-approved credit card offers crowding your mailbox.

• **Select just one card.** You only need one credit card to build good credit. Plus,

it makes it easier to pay your balance on time.

Once you've chosen a card, use it wisely

• **Pay it in full.** Pay off the full balance every month if at all possible. Carrying a balance will cost you. If you have a credit card with a 19.8 percent interest rate, a \$3,000 balance, and you make \$60 monthly payments, it will take you nine years to pay it off and cost you more than \$6,000.

• **Pay it on time.** Be sure you mail your check in plenty of time to arrive before the date your payment is due. If your payment is even one day late, your credit card company will charge you a late fee (which is often as much as \$30) and interest on the balance.

• **Know your limit.** If you make payments on time your bank could automatically increase your credit limit. Don't let a higher credit limit cause you to slip into deeper debt. Remember, you still have to pay it off.

If you need help making your credit card decisions, you can contact the Federal Reserve Board's Division of Consumer Affairs at (202) 452-3603 or www.federalreserve.gov. ■

- New Vision
- New Direction
- New Methods
- New Leadership

for *Retooling* the General Baptist State Convention



J. C. Harris

For President of the
General Baptist State Convention, Inc.
of North Carolina

Vote October 2002

Retooling the Church for the 21st Century

Retooling the Church for the 21st Century Luke 4:18 Special Convention Goals

- † Be open to Baptist Diversity for Churches who may have different interpretation of Scripture or doctrinal concepts, symbolism, or practice.
- † Evaluate the effectiveness of the organizational concepts of the mission.
- † To promote Home and Foreign Mission, Christian Education Ministerial training, Social Services, the distribution of the Bible, and the Teaching of Theology.
- † Baptist Student Union
- † Red, White and Blue Commission Scholarships for 1000 students:
 - Pre-Medical Students
 - Future Teachers of America
 - Pre-Theological Students
 - Math and Science Students
 - Nursing Students
- † Moderator's Ministry to:
 - Develop a statewide Ministry to embrace the objectives of the Convention
 - A Convention of inclusion
 - Student enrollment
 - Scholarships
 - NAACP Membership
 - Pastor's Leadership Conference

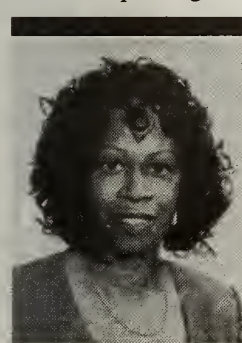
- Sponsor the Martin Luther King, Jr. Banquet
- Have District Associational objectives
- Plan a Shaw Day in All Associations
- † Make the evangelization of North Carolina the Hub of the General Baptist Home Missions Effort
- † Promote a Massive Bible Distribution Project
- † Offer a comprehensive program of training, support and assistance to local churches in the areas of evangelism, Christian education, church management, and Baptist polity
- † Sanction mission for each association
- † Establish a General Baptist Scholarship in every association
- † Spearhead Year-Round use of J. J. Johnson Assembly by the General Baptist Family
- † Prioritize the growth of the General Baptist Foundation
- † Support Economic Development efforts in communities served by the General Baptists Churches

Church World Service Interfaith Trauma Counseling Still Going One Year After 9/11

Trauma Response Training Program Expands in U.S., Abroad

Submitted by Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

As people in the United States prepared for the first anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, Church World Service continued its recovery work in responding to the disaster, with



Carol Smith

special emphasis on spiritual care, particularly to clergy and other caregivers with the September 11 crisis and its aftermath.

A year into the recovery, religious leaders and caregivers are finding their jobs are still daunting.

Indeed, for many spiritual leaders throughout New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania, understanding the nature and scope of public trauma, the faith responses to trauma, and preparing themselves and their congregations to respond to the pastoral needs of their communities have sometimes seemed like an insurmountable calling.

That is why Church World Service has made pastoral and spiritual care a cornerstone of its immediate and long-term response to September 11.

"As a faith-based humanitarian aid organization, spiritual and emotional care support has always been one of many parts of our emergency response to

domestic crisis," said Rick Augsburg, director of CWS's Emergency Response Program. "For the first time, the events of September 11 made the provision of spiritual and emotional care the priority focus of our response. New programming efforts were required to support the capacity of the faith community and ensure that spiritual and emotional care continues for the long term.

"When you have an event, such as September 11, that traumatizes so widely, tremendous resources and efforts are required to provide spiritual and emotional support. This is a capacity that the faith community has and stands ready to provide in the wake of September 11 and in response to disasters of all kinds," Augsburg said.

Two days after the terrorist attack, Church World Service mobilized its first Interfaith Crisis Counseling teams to New York. These teams were requested to provide emotional and spiritual care, as well as critical incident stress debriefing to traumatized individuals and to emergency rescue personnel. The teams addressed immediate needs and also served as the first step for CWS's provision of long-term recovery services and direct interfaith response to caregivers and those affected in the New York community.

Since February, more than 100 pastors and other caregivers from the New York City and Washington, D.C., metropolitan areas have participated in five-day training programs – the monthly Seminars on Trauma Awareness and Recovery (STAR) co-sponsored by CWS and the Conflict Transformation Program of Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) in

Harrisonburg, Virginia. Another 300 clergy and caregivers have participated in 21 trainings as part of CWS's Interfaith Trauma Response Program (ITRP), held throughout the New York City metropolitan area and in Washington, D.C. Those trainings have been held since October 2001.

The Interfaith Trauma Response Program (ITRP) is helping equip religious leaders and caregivers with insight into addressing the psychological and theological impact of large-scale public trauma. The Seminars on Trauma Awareness & Recovery (STAR) build upon the work of the Interfaith Trauma Response trainings, with special focus on the deeper and broader issues of justice, reconciliation and peace-building in relationship to events of trauma. It equips them with practical tools to apply in their congregations and communities. Both programs will continue well into 2003.

Other programs that CWS is supporting in the wake of September 11 are:

Providing funding for interfaith development and direct assistance programs to the New York Interfaith Disaster Response Initiative; the New Jersey Interfaith Disaster Recovery Partnership; Long Island Council of Churches Disaster Taskforce; and the Greater Washington, D.C. Council of Churches Disaster Response Program. In addition, community service organizations in New York and Washington, D.C., with particular programs to assist those with special needs, have received grants from CWS.

Supporting the faith community in New Jersey, New York, and Washington, D.C., in seeking resources for those

whose needs are beyond other agency programs. Many churches and community organizations have seen a substantial increase in families needing assistance with housing, food, utilities, medical, and transportation. In addition, they have also provided advocacy and spiritual and emotional care/counseling. CWS has hosted a series of monthly meetings that have become a venue for faith-based sharing around issues common to their constituency, revelation of emerging concerns, passing on new information, and visioning new ministry options.

The development of a team of professionally credentialed and experienced pastoral care-givers and critical incident stress debriefers as a resource for September 11 recovery and in preparation for responding to future large-scale traumatic events.

In addition, CWS has co-sponsored a series of interactive web-casts co-sponsored by faithandvalues.com that have dealt with such topics as: "Hearing the Muslim Community: Preparing for Interfaith Disaster Response"; "Tragedy and Spiritual Care"; "Patriotism and Peace"; "Heroism and Risk-Taking"; and "Grief and Recovery".

The discussion forums have featured panels of faith leaders, scholars, professional counselors, and journalists, with interactive participation by congregations and pastoral leadership groups worldwide. The web-casts can be viewed at www.faitlandvalues.com.

For more information about Church World Service and its trauma recovery work, visit www.churchworldservice.org.

National Kidney Foundation

Submitted by Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

Your car can do a lot more than take up space in your garage! For the National Kidney Foundation and Kidney Cars, its nationwide vehicle donation program, your car can save a life. If you've been thinking of selling or trading in your car, why not avoid the hassle and donate it instead?

Donating your vehicle is easy. Just call 1-800-488-CARS and a representative of the National Kidney Foundation will walk you through the process of donation. They'll even arrange to have your vehicle picked up free of charge, and mail you a letter acknowledging your donation for tax purposes.

The Kidney Cars Program turns vehicles into hope for thousands of children and adults suffering from kidney disease. The National Kidney Foundation is dedi-

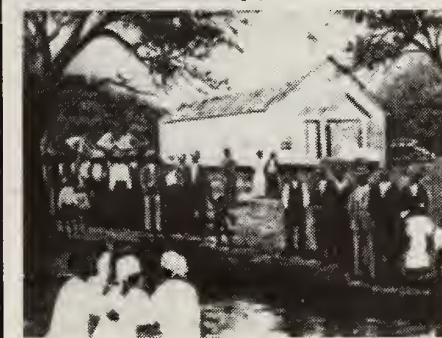
cated to preventing kidney and urinary tract diseases, improving the health and well being of individuals and families affected by these diseases and increasing the availability of all organs for transplantation.

If you would like to help save lives in North Carolina, donate your vehicle to the Kidney Cars Program by calling 1-800-488-CARS or donate online at www.nkfc.org. ■

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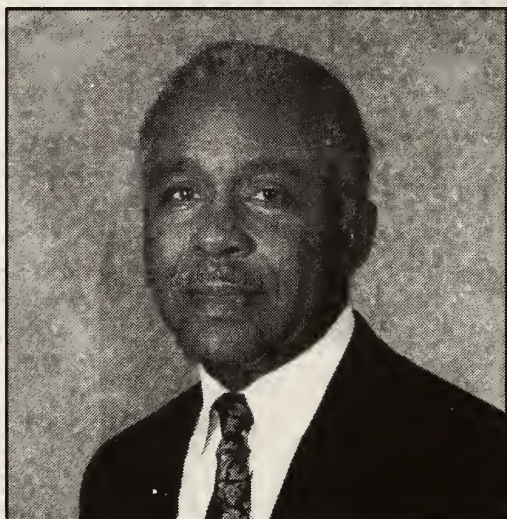
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Dr. Charles T. Bullock Candidate for President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastor and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-12).

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Charles T. Bullock

We have the responsibility to help every other member in the body of Christ to grow in faith. The ministry is for all who are called to share in Christ's life. Through **education** and **research** we can use our gifts for the building up of the body of Christ. **Integrity** and **commitment** exemplify our dedication for carrying out the mandates of Christ.

E Education -- vision to enhance the teaching Ministry of our convention, utilizing state-of-the-art strategies and technology on the local, state and collegiate levels at Shaw University and Shaw University Divinity School. This involves online courses and the World Wide Web.

R Research -- exposure to studies, material and resources that provide relevant solutions to problems and issues our churches are facing today as it relates to ministry, internal conflict, money management skills, and health and human services.

I Integrity -- a bold declaration of Whose we are and how faithfully we support the cause of Jesus Christ through financial support, participation and promotion of the ideals, objectives and ministry of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

C Commitment -- my declared intentions to execute the duties and responsibilities of the office of President as mandated by the constitution and in keeping with God's Word. As a candidate for the office of President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., I commit to serve on behalf of its constituency in helping to further develop and implement ministries through Education, Research, Integrity and Commitment.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Charles T. Bullock President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

Paul L. Anderson, Campaign Manager
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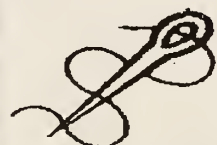
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PASTORS

MOUNT OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Bayboro, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume
 2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
 3. One business and two personal references (no family references)
- Send information to:
Mayor B. Credle, Deacon Chairman
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5972 NC Highway 304
Bayboro, NC 28515

OLIVE BRANCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide a resume.

Send information to:
The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chairperson
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
elonzajoybner@hotmail.com

PASTOR: OAKLEY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Clayton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
 2. Personal references
- Send information to:
Oakley Grove Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson
PO Box 2435
Smithfield, NC 27577

MOUNT CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. The church is located in Hertford County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A Resume
 2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
 3. Two personal references (no family references)
- Send information to:
Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Search Committee
ATTN: Deacon Eugene White
815 Swains Mill Road
Harrellsville, NC 27942

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

- A Resume
Send information to:
Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Pastor Search Committee
Route 2, Box 128
Norlina, NC 27563

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH Thomasville, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention, interested applicants should provide a resume. Send information to:

Tanya M. Autry, Chairperson
Pastor Search Committee
First Missionary Baptist Church
103 Church Street
Thomasville, NC 27360

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, Newburgh, NY: currently accepting applications for Senior Pastor with strong Baptist roots. The Committee will provide each candidate with an application packet.

Send request to:
Ebenezer Baptist Church
ATTN: Deacon Milton
Buxton/Confidential
PO Box 248
Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

SHADY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, East Spencer, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
 2. at least four references: (2) business (2) personal
 3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
- Send information to:
Shady Grove Baptist Church
ATTN: Clarence A. Jones, Chairperson
PO Box 447
East Spencer, NC 28039

MOUNT CALVARY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Wilmington, NC: currently accepting applications for Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume or Letter of Interest
 2. At least five references: (Two can be ministers)
 3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
- Send information to:
Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
ATTN: Rena Lennon
PO Box 1970
Wilmington, NC 28420

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Kitrell, NC currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots, interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume with cover letter of interest
- Send information to:
Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
PO Box 175
Kitrell, NC 7544-0175
252-492-0567

EASTERN STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: of Tarboro, North Carolina 27886 seeking a pastor.

- He must be experienced
- Well seasoned
- He must live by the word of God
- Willing to teach Sunday school and bible study class

•Must be between the age of 25-55
Please submit resume to:
Pulpit Committee
Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 1677
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886

THE ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH seeks a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. St. John has a rich legacy of 75 years of service to the city, county, state and country, which suggests the following list of desired characteristics:

- Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
- Must possess ability to teach, train and coach church officers and auxiliary leaders.
- Must have the skills and be willing to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
- Must have the prerequisite administrative skills, which include the ability to articulate, negotiate and facilitate effectively with a diverse community including educational, business, political, civic and philanthropic communities.
- Evidence of community awareness and involvement
- Must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of the Church.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE MUST INCLUDE:

- Minimum of ten years in the ministry as a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
 - Terminal masters degree from a recognized accredited seminary or theological institution.
 - Must possess strong and proven administrative skills and experience.
 - Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies and procedures, and willingness to follow the by-laws governing the church.
 - Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
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fications should submit the following information:

- A resume and letter of interest to include a vision statement as it related to their ministry.
- Copies of license and ordination certification
- Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training
- Name, address and telephone number of five (5) personal and professional references with no more than three (3) coming from other ministries familiar with your ministry along with audio/video sample of a sermon.

Completed applications will be accepted for the posting period July 22, 2002 — August 23, 2002. Applications post-marked prior to and after the posting period will not be considered. Completed applications should be sent via certified/return receipt mail addressed to: Mr. Manning Fogan, II, Chair, Pulpit Committee, St. John Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1038, Getzville, New York 14068-1038.

SECOND CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

114 NELSON AVENUE CHARLOTTE, NC 28216

Second Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a full time pastor to serve as spiritual leader, teacher and counselor for her congregation. Finalist for this position must meet the following qualifications:

- Born-again licensed, ordained minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Knowledge of Baptist doctrine, practices and polity
- BA degree from an accredited institution of higher learning
- Senior Pastor for at least four to five years
- Good administrative and communication skills
- Ability to communicate with all age groups especially the youth
- Leadership experience in developing or administering youth programs and community service programs
- Willingness to affiliate at the national, state and local Baptist conventions and associations.
- Present location within five hours driving time from Charlotte
- Willingness to submit to a police and credit check

Resumes for persons meeting these qualifications should be sent to the Pulpit Search Committee at the address shown above. Resume deadline date is September 19, 2002

FOSTER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, is accepting resume for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- He must possess good moral and ethical conduct, living by Timothy 3:1-1, Titus 1:7-9 and abstain from study activities and inclinations as those cited in Romans 1:26-27.
- He must have a minimum of three (3) years experience as pastor with demonstrated ability in counseling and supervising all work for the church.
- He must live in the proximity of the church.
- He must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach God's word.
- He must possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist Doctrine, Church Policies, and Practices, and be willing to abide by them.
- He must have the skills required to work with all age groups, with special emphasis on the youth.
- He must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of

the church. — He must be community oriented, and have strong family values.

- He must have a minimum of a high school diploma preferably a degree or courses in seminary training from an accredited college or university.
- He must be willing to attend Sunday School, Prayer Meetings, and teach Bible Study.

Please send resume to:

Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church, 1911 South Church Street
Post Office Box 6317
Rocky Mount, NC 2802-6317
C/O The Pulpit Committee
Trustee Hiawatha Knight

MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Shelby, NC

Shelby, NC is currently accepting applications for a pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. The Church is affiliated with the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Association, and the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Interested applicants should provide the following:

Resume (including pastor experiences and educational qualifications)
A copy of religious credentials (license/ordination)
At least three personal references (no family)
Send information to:
Pastor Search Committee
Mount Calvary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 3181
Shelby, N.C. 28151-3181

UNION GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Youngsville, NC is seeking a church musician.

For specific qualifications and duties, please contact Pastor J.C. Sherrod at 919-242-4024. Please send resume or inquiries to
Attn: Rev. J.C. Sherrod
Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 730
Youngsville, NC 27596

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QUALIFICATIONS:

Must be a licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.

- Full of Holy Ghost. Led by the Spirit of God in all matters.
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- Must be Association minded.
- Prefer having experience as a Pastor.
- The husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior.
- One that rules his own house, having a good report.
- Knows the doctrine of a Missionary Baptist Church
- Must attend meetings of different auxiliaries in the church to become familiar with the organizations, whenever possible.
- Must visit the sick and shut-in when possible.
- Must attempt to become involved with the various programs that the church participates in outside the home church calendar.

Send resumes and inquiries to:

Deacon Kenneth Bracey
1025 Red Bug Rd.
Hallsboro, North Carolina 28442
910-646-4467

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CHURCH STAFF:

MUSICIANS

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Above to play the piano. Keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as, well as direct choirs, with humility and love.
6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services.
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship.

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED:

Wake Forest congregation seeks musician. 1) The duties include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship, 2.) Playing during Sunday morning worship service, 3). Rehearsing with various choirs one night per week, 4.) And accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to: Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church 12700 Creedmoor Road Highway 50 Wake Forest, NC 27587 (919) 870-8874

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY:

THE SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the appropriate qualifications. (SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS AT BEGINNING OF CHURCH MUSICIAN SECTION):

For additional information please send inquiry or resume to:

SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 2589

Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

MUSICIAN NEEDED: Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday. Prepare Choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship. Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times. Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church functions. Direct congregation in congregational hymns. Must be able to play by ear as well as read music

To apply call:

(704) 532-6813 or E-mail to

GalileeNC@aol.com

GALILEE MISSIONARY

BAPTIST CHURCH

PO. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED:

THE PENN AVENUE MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian, who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation. Requirements:

*Plays the organ and piano

*Able to work with a diverse group of singers

*Experienced in all sacred music

*Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to:

Mount Olive Baptist Church

PO Box 214

Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849

Attention: William W. Peele, Jr.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED:

THE PENN AVENUE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Oxford, NC, is currently seeking a MINISTER OF MUSIC.

QUALIFICATIONS:

(SEE SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS LISTED IN BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION)

*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.

Salary: Negotiable

Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be

MINISTER OF MUSIC

INTRODUCTION:

The position of Minister of Music is a full-time position at First Baptist Church, 101 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. First Baptist Church is a historical black congregation organized as a bi-racial Church at the North Carolina State House (now the Capitol) in 1812. This historical congregation seeks an individual who is willing to grow with its Pastor and his flock. This position requires a music and worship leader who is spiritual and experienced in providing the total awareness of the movement of God's spirit in the assembly of God's people.

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION:

The Minister of Music at First Baptist Church is responsible to the Pastor and is supervised by the Pastor for the development and promotion of the entire music program of First Baptist Church.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The duties and responsibilities of the Minister of Music at First Baptist Church are as follows:

1. Direct the planning, organizing, conducting, and evaluating of a comprehensive music ministry.
2. Supervise the work of paid or volunteer music staff.
3. Cooperate with the church process to enlist and train leaders for the church music ministry, including choir workers, song leaders, and accompanists for the church worship experiences.
4. Lead in planning and promoting a choir program; direct and coordinate the work of choir directors; direct adult, youth, and other choirs as needed.
5. Arrange and provide music for weddings, funerals, special projects, ministries, and other church-related activities upon request.
6. Plan, organize, and promote choir tours, mission trips, camps, festivals, workshops, clinics, and programs for the various choirs.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the music library, materials, supplies, musical instruments, and other equipment.
8. Keep informed on music methods, materials, promotion and administration.
9. Prepare an annual music budget and administer the approved budget.
10. Assist the pastor in planning all services of worship, coordinate the music program with the church calendar and emphases of the church vision.
11. Cooperate with denominational leaders in promoting activities of mutual interest.
12. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be a Christian.
2. Must hold music credentials from an accredited college, university, or conservatory, with at least a Bachelor of Music Degree in Sacred Music, Music Performance, or Music Education (Masters Degree or equivalent preferred).
3. Must have a demonstrated ability in Piano and Pipe Organ proficiency, organizational skills, people skills and ability in choral and instrumental conducting.
4. Must be trained in all styles of Baptist worship, liturgy, and hymnody.
5. The ideal candidate will be an enthusiastic professional who has the proven abilities to revitalize the youth and children's choirs.
6. Must possess creativity and the ability to work collaboratively with the Pastor and staff.
7. Flexibility and technical competence are vital.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The person who is selected for this position must be in generally good health, physically mobile, good eyesight and hearing. A complete physical exam and criminal background check are also requirements.

SALARY:

\$44,106.00 - \$65,000.00 per year depending upon qualifications and/or experience.

CLOSING DATE:

Resumes and/or applications, and references must be postmarked by October 15, 2002.

CONTACT:

Mail resumes or applications and references to:

First Baptist Church

ATTN: Mr. Michael A. Shaw

P.O. Box 27771

Raleigh, NC 27611

(919) 832-1649

Email: churchfb@bellsouth.net

New Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville, North Carolina, is currently accepting applications for the position of Pastor.

Interested applicants should provide the following:

- Resumé
- Religious Credentials (Certificate of Ordination, License)
- Three Personal References

Please send information by November 30th, 2002, to:

New Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church

Pastoral Search Team

2 Herman Avenue

Asheville, NC 28801-4357

828-253-0749

CLASSIFIEDS

made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED:

Knowledge of music and the ability to play by ear is appreciated. Presently, morning worship service is held every fourth (4th) Sunday, but we are considering an additional Sunday for services. Must be able to play for youth choir and adult choir. Church is located in Warren County, North Carolina. For further information, please call: (252) 257-0221

MUSIC OF MINISTER NEEDED:

THE CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH in Gastonia, NC is currently seeking a Minister of Music. (SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION.) Salary is commensurate with training and experience. Please send cover letter and resume to: Center Baptist Church. Attention: Personnel Committee
POB 550064
Gastonia, NC 28055
or fax cover letter and resume to: Personnel Committee at 704-824-7683.

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of Gibson, N.C. is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician. Qualifications: (PLEASE SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION) Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at this address.

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
14600 Railroad St.
Gibson, NC 28343

CHURCH MUSICIAN: THE FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is accepting resumes for a Church Musician. Qualifications: (SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION) Salary negotiable:
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A person in this position must possess formal training and expertise in the area

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EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Science Degree in Music with concentration in choral, church, or music education, a minimum of two years of work experience as Minister of Music or Minister of Music Assistant in a similar Church environment.

An Instrument skill proficiency test is required on piano and organ. Must possess the ability to organize and prioritize tasks, events, and activities; ability to work under pressure of deadlines; make decisions; and establish effective working relationships with the Pastor, choir members, church members, supervisor, and church community.

•Resumes will be accepted until August 31, 2002. Start date for this position will be December 31, 2002.

•If the Holy Spirit excites you about this opportunity to serve God, and you meet the qualifications and expectations described above, we would love to hear from you. Please e-mail your resume to

or mail it to:

The Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church
1879 Glenwood Avenue, S.E.
Atlanta, GA 30313
Attn: Personnel Committee

JEFFRIES CROSS BAPTIST CHURCH

Send cover letter and resume to Jeffries Cross Baptist Church, 2015 Jeffries Cross Rd., Burlington, NC 27217. Phone: 336-226-9626. We are currently seeking a musician who will work directly with the pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the music ministry. Qualifications: 1. A Christian with piano, keyboard, organ ability; read music, play chords, teach harmony, direct choirs, conduct two rehearsals per month with four choirs, accompany pastor on engagements, accommodate traditional and contemporary worship styles.

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Must also have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrine, church policies and procedures and a willingness to follow the by-laws governing the church.

Good administrative and communication skills with the ability to teach, train church officers and auxiliary leaders. Able to communicate with all aged groups, especially the young.

Must have at least (3) three to (4) four years of pastoral experience.

Willing to submit to strict investigation, police and credit check.

Please respond to the Search Committee of Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 4182, Winston-Salem, NC 28115.

Please send your response by mail.



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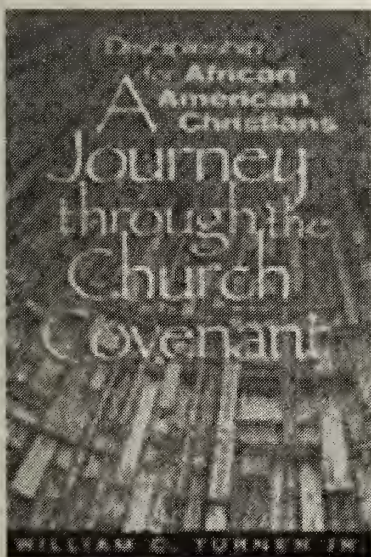
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BAPTIST INFORMER

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BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 125, No. 11

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

November 2002

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton, 42nd President of The United States, Invited To Keynote the GBSC 135th Anniversary Year and 4th Annual Housing Banquet

By Archie D. Logan, Jr.
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., has invited the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton, Forty-Second President of the United

States of America, to be the "Keynote" speaker for our 135th Year Anniversary and 4th Annual Housing Banquet in December 2002. The event is to be held in Raleigh, NC. During his administration,

1993-2001, the United States enjoyed more peace and economic well-being than at any time in its history. The GBSC will honor President Clinton with a Special Religious Award for his lifelong service to humanity.

President Clinton was the first Democratic president since Franklin D. Roosevelt to win a second term. He could point to the lowest unemployment rate in modern times; the lowest inflation in 30 years; the highest home ownership in the country's history; dropping crime rates in many places; and reduced welfare roles. He proposed the first balanced budget in decades and achieved a budget surplus. Erskine Bowles, a North Carolina native, served as his "Chief of Staff" at this time and spearheaded many of the balanced budget proposals.

As part of a plan to celebrate the millennium in 2000, Clinton called for a

great national initiative to end racial discrimination. He created many opportunities for African-Americans and other minorities during his term. President Clinton was the first President to serve in the new millennium and brought a vision of hope and unity to the world.

One of President Clinton's first goals was a huge program of health care reform, which the Congress failed to pass. The President shifted emphasis, declaring, "the era of big government is over". He sought legislation to upgrade education, to protect jobs of parents who must care for sick children, to restrict handgun sales, and to strengthen environmental rules. President Clinton was one of the greatest leaders of all times.

President Clinton was born William Jefferson Blythe IV on August 19, 1946, in Hope, Arkansas, three months after his father died in a traffic accident. When he was four years old, his mother wed Roger Clinton, of Hot Springs, Arkansas. In high school, he took the Clinton family name.

He graduated from Georgetown University, Washington, DC and in 1968 won a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University. He received a law degree from Yale University in 1973, and entered politics in Arkansas. He was defeated in his campaign for Congress in Arkansas's Third District in 1974. The next year he married Hilary Rodham, a graduate of Wellesley College and Yale Law School. In 1980, Chelsea, their only child, was born. His wife, Hillary is serving as a United States Senator from the State of New York.

Clinton was elected Arkansas Attorney General in 1976 and won the governorship in 1978. After losing a bid for a sec-

ond term, he regained the office four years later, and served until he defeated incumbent George Bush and third party candidate Ross Perot in the 1992 presidential race. President Clinton and his running mate, Tennessee's Senator Albert



Gore Jr., then 44, represented a new generation in American political leadership. For the first time in 12 years both the White House and Congress were held by the same party. But that political edge was brief; the Republicans won both houses of Congress in 1994.

As a global leader, he successfully dispatched peace keeping forces to war-torn Bosnia and bombed Iraq when Saddam Hussein stopped Union Nations inspections for evidence of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. He became a proponent for an expanded NATO; more

open international trade; and a worldwide campaign against drug trafficking. He drew huge crowds when he traveled through South America, Europe, Russia, Africa, and China, advocating U.S. style freedom. President Clinton's visit with the GBSC, Inc., will be historic. It will be the first time in our Convention history that a President of the United States has spoken to our body as a keynote speaker. Plan now to join us at this event. For information call Baptist Headquarters, (919) 821-7466 or (800) 639-GBSC.

Conclusion

Moderators and Pastors, please see that members of your Associations and congregations are registered to vote in the November 5, 2002 election. Voter education is important! Call your local board of elections to find out how to get your people registered. Everyone 18 years and older can vote. Once registered it is important, Moderators and Pastors, that you see that members of your Association and congregations GO VOTE. Plan now for November 5, 2002! ■

A Thanksgiving Message November 2002

By Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Thanksgiving Season: A Time of Reflection

I found this message while reading some thoughts on Thanksgiving:

If you can read this message, you just received a double blessing in that someone was thinking of you, and furthermore, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world that cannot

read at all.

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness . . . you are more blessed than the one million who will not survive this week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation . . . you are ahead of 500 million people in the world today.

See MESSAGE, Page 2

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OUR 135TH YEAR

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TREASURER NEWS

MESSAGE, Cont'd From Page 1

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death . . . you are more blessed than three billion people on this earth.

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep . . . you are richer than 75% of the world's population.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish someplace . . . you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful . . . you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not.

If you can hold someone's hand, hug them or even touch them on the shoulder . . . you are blessed because you can offer a healing touch.

—:Source Unknown

I am especially grateful for this Thanksgiving season. Several months ago I had a very serious accident and God has begun to heal my body and restore me to health. I am blessed to have a caring family. My wife Elaine has spent her last two months nursing me, others have prayed and the anointing of the Holy Spirit has dwelled with and around me. I am blessed to have a loyal and faithful GBSC, Inc. staff. The administrative affairs of the convention have gone on. Many of our Officers, Moderators and Pastors have assisted us in ministry and Kingdom Building.

Thanksgiving is a duty of which an attitude of gratitude is the Grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This obligation of godliness is acknowledged by the universal sentiment of humanity; but as Christians grace it has some blessed peculiarities. It is gratitude for all the benefits of divine Providence, especially

for the general and personal gifts of redemption. The ethical gratitude of Christianity connects every good gift and every perfect gift with the gift of Christ's Love and Forgiveness. The rejoicing that we have in the Lord, and the everlasting consolation we possess in Him, makes every possible variety of divine dispensation a token for good. Ideally, thanksgiving should spring from a grateful heart; and is required of all believers, regardless of their initial attitude.

2002 has been a year to remember. I appreciate so much more each day the Lord God gives me on the planet. Life has taken on a new meaning and purpose. I have had time to renew my determination and mission that the Kingdom is at hand! More than ever Christians must continue to make a difference in this world. We must seek the lost and unsaved for Christ. Time is winding down. I have been reading Daniel and the

Revelation of John; I believe more than ever that we are in the last days. We must lift up salvation to those that do not believe. The Christian privilege is to find reason for gratitude in all things: "for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Thanksgiving is the special "spiritual" season we should be grateful to God for all things (Ephesians 5:20; and Colossians 3:17), but especially for His work of salvation and sanctification (Romans 7:25; Colossians 1:3-5; 1 Thessalonians 1:2-7; 2:13).

From the General Baptist State Convention we wish each of you a blessed Thanksgiving Season. Make time for Christ, family and friends! Witness to a lost sinner! Evangelize in your community! Pray for your enemies! Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever (Psalm 136:1).

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THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

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A Final Presidential Farewell Note The Challenge Is the Same

"Reach the Masses"
John 12:32.

By Reverend Dennis Leach B.S. M.Div.

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

(II Timothy 4:6,7 KJV).



Dr. John Fuller

As the sun sets on my tenure as your President, this very familiar Pauline passage serves as a final note to all of you, my General Baptist State Convention brothers and sisters. In the

course of my administration there were things I accomplished that I did not set out to. On the other hand, there were things I hoped I could bring to fruition that were never able to take wing. Whatever was initiated, or finished during my tenure was by the grace of God, and, to God be the glory. During my tour of duty as your President, I gave myself to the challenges and the sometimes-unpre-

dictable demands that were placed upon me. An undeniable inherent part of the leadership equation always involves struggle. The struggles, to provide those you lead with meaningful ministry that serves both to equip, and empower. The struggle, to build cleric coalitions that are prepared to support the mission agenda, and will best serve the interest of this great Convention. And, the struggle to maintain those sometimes frazzled alliances under the burden of misunderstandings, and disagreements. To that end, I did my level best.

In spite of what I was able to accomplish, or was unable to compete during my Presidency I have run my course. I have kept the faith, the faith that this Convention will continue to be a tool for ministry in the Master's hand. It has been a challenge and privilege to serve you. In the years to come, I encourage you to be faithful to the causes of Christ through your loyal support, of this Convention and its unified objectives. Pray for and support the new administration of the President elect, and his cabinet.

"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace" (Num. 6:24-26 KJV).

"135" Years, Honoring the Past

By Reverend Dennis Leach, B.S. M. Div.

When you consider the time, place, and the social environment into which the Convention was birthed, you do it with awe, respect, and admiration for those responsible founders and framers of what is known today as the General Baptist



Rev. Dennis Leach

State Convention of North Carolina Inc. As I considered this subject, one question pressed down upon me. How did former slaves or free Blacks in the hostile environment of the South under Reconstruction

accomplish such a magnificent achievement in the forming of this Convention? In order for anyone to do justice to the matter surrounding the establishment of our Convention you have got to look at the whole picture. Several notable individuals like John Hope Franklin, Alfred A. Moss Jr., Leroy Fitts, Alan Keith Lucas, and Dr. Wilmoth Carter do a great deal to set the stage historically and inform us.

It must be remembered, as Howard K. Beale has pointed out, that there is no way to understand Reconstruction unless an attempt is made to study it in its setting. The same can be said for the formation of our Convention, which was born in the morning of a South under Reconstruction. At the end of the Civil War there was no civil authority in the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, or Texas. Many former slaves, homeless and without jobs, wandered from place to place, much to the disgust and fear of whites. Inseparably connected with problems of rebuilding the South and bringing it back into the Union was the question of the ex-slaves. There was no dispute over the fact that they were in dire needs. There was no question of their status as free individuals, but conflict arose over the possible distinctions between them and white people. The greatest concern of Southerners was the problem of controlling blacks. Most Southern whites, although willing to concede the end of slavery even to the point of voting for adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment, were convinced that laws should be speedily enacted to curb blacks and to ensure their role as a laboring force in the South. Black Codes replaced the old slave codes and effectively denied Blacks the rights of free individuals. After the assassination of

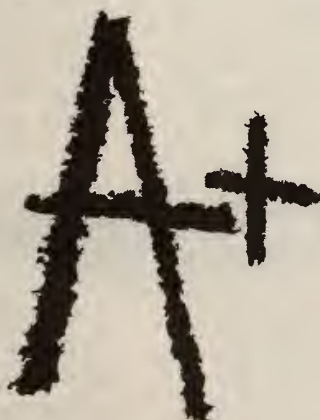
Lincoln, President Andrew Johnson sided with Southern sentiment. He vetoed the civil rights bill and declared that blacks were not yet ready for the privileges and equalities of citizens.

In an Address from the Convention of the Colored People of North Carolina the New York Daily "Tribune", October 7, 1865 records: "We are fully conscious that we cannot long expect the presence of Government agents, or of troops to secure us against evil treatment from unreasonable, prejudiced, and unjust men. We have no desire to look abroad for protection and sympathy. We know we must find both at home, among the people of our own State, and merit them by our industry, sobriety and the respectful demeanor, or suffer long and grievous evils. We most earnestly desire to have the disabilities under which we have formerly lived removed: to have all the oppressive laws which make unjust discriminations on account of race or color wiped from the statutes of the State".

One of the primary agencies that offered both spiritual and material relief during Reconstruction was the Black Church. Blacks began to withdraw from white churches once they secured their freedom. The Baptist Church enjoyed phenomenal growth. Within a few years every Southern state had a large Black Baptist organization. As long as Johnson allowed some Southern whites to participate in Reconstruction, the whites believed they could handle blacks. White Southerners were determined to guide their own destiny and control blacks. When Radical Reconstruction made this possible, in 1867 they struck with fury and rage. This violence culminated in the rise of the Ku Klux Klan movement. As early as 1866, when Southern whites had almost complete charge of Reconstruction, a kind of guerilla warfare was carried on against blacks. The head of the Freedmen's Bureau in Georgia, for example, complained that bands of men calling themselves Regulators, Jayhawkers, and the Black Horse Calvary were committing the "most fiendish and diabolical outrages on the freedmen" with the sympathy not only of the populace but of the reconstructed government too.

How could Black folks have formed a Convention amidst this violent raging tide of social injustice? I believe it was because of a number of things. Namely, they possessed God's grace, and their faith; which cause them to be committed and determined to participate in Kingdom work. "And the Lord gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as

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PRESIDENT'S NEWS CONTINUED

135 YEARS, Cont'd From Page 3

they required" (Ex. 12:36a KJV). In the book *A Splendid Enterprise* it is noted that in the formation of the Convention's Constitution several members of the white church assisted. Out of that meeting came our constitution:

We the delegates from various regular Baptist Churches in North Carolina, Met in Convention in the town of Goldsboro, N.C. on the 17th day of October, 1867*, for the purpose of considering the propriety of entering into some general organization for our mutual improvement and the diffusion of the principles of the gospel – agree to the following rules of fundamental principles.

Article 1st. This body shall be styled **The General Association of the Colored Baptist of North Carolina.**** (Proceedings, 1867, p.6). Article two is a clear indicator that these framers of our Convention possessed both faith and Christian focus.

Article II. It shall be the design of this Association to promote State and Foreign Missions, Ministerial Education and other important objects connected with the Redeemer's Kingdom, and to combine for this purpose such portions of the Colored Baptist denomination in North Carolina as may desire a general organization for Christian benevolence, which shall fully respect the independence and equal rights of the churches.

With the winds of disfranchisement swirling about them they believed, they had faith that said they could, and they should make a difference. First and foremost was mission work. They had the kind of faith that James talked about.

Faith that was accompanied by works, near and afar. And, they showed the world through their works, that they possessed faith. As a result of their faith they formed the first Missionary Baptist Convention in the United States according to John Hope Franklin in his book: *From Slavery to Freedom*. Over the years their focus on missions was broadened to include the Oxford Children's Home. This first move came from Shiloh and the Wake Baptist Association in 1882. The Reverend Doctor Augustus Shepard, pastor of the Colored Baptist Church in Henderson, North Carolina, proposed the formation of the Colored Orphanage Association; was thus the second orphanage to be founded in North Carolina, and one of the first to serve black children in the country.

In 1897 the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention was formed amidst the internal disturbance within the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A. There were three points being debated among prominent clergymen in September of 1897 at Ebenezer Baptist Church of Boston, Massachusetts. The Reverend Doctor Harvey Johnson, pastor of Union Baptist Church of Baltimore, led the movement for independence of Black Baptists from white Baptist mission projects. He delivered a very stirring address, a part of it reads as such:

That if cooperation is to continue it shall embrace every other moral and civil issue that concerns our best progress and welfare, as well as religious and educational.

First. That we co-operate in bringing to trial the many lynching mobs that are now going unwhipped of justice in the different parts of the Country, especially

the South.

Secondly. That we co-operate in having the tavern and innkeepers admit ministers and delegates to the same accommodation that is accorded to the white representatives of the Home Mission and other societies where we meet annually.

Thirdly. That we be accorded first-class accommodations on all public conveyances, and that the "Jim Crow" car system be broken up.

As a people united under the umbrella of this Convention we are connected to a noble and glorious past. The words of Dr. Johnson, in light of the social ills he and people of color faced in that day, are morally and ethically encouraging. Here is a representative of the church standing front, and center demanding justice. This represents a part of a glorious past of Kingdom soldiers standing on the field of battle holding up the blood stained banner for the Lord. As this Convention moves forward making new history, we do it honoring the contributions and successes of the past. These are seven points of interest regarding the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, our ministry arm in far reaching places.

To stimulate the foreign mission spirit among the churches on our home front.

To do exclusively foreign mission, which was divinely imposed upon the churches.

To enlist all pastors in a movement to see that the Lord's command is literally carried out.

To provide an organization for the economical and honest use of all foreign mission money entrusted to its care.

To choose wisely, and in co-operation

with other Baptist organizations, our fields and missionaries.

To require all missionaries and conventional agents to report accurately and regularly all work done and funds received from time to time.

That not more than 25% of our total income shall be used for operating expenses.

For the most part individual churches do not possess the ability to place missionaries on foreign fields, however together as churches that support Associations that support this state Convention, which stands in alliance with the Lott Carey Convention we can.

Finally as a Convention we support education through our under-girding of Shaw University & Shaw University Divinity School. In her book *Shaw's Universe* Wilmoth Carter writes the following: It thus appears that the existence of the school as a church-related institution stems from its founding by a Baptist minister who served simultaneously as pastor of the church and principal of the school, both the church and the school being originally housed in the same physical structure; to the interest and support which the institution received from the American Baptist Home Mission Society and the "Colored" Baptist Convention of North Carolina. Around 1943-44, the Baptist Convention's Headquarters was established on the campus of Shaw (second floor of the Leonard Building). Later, it moved to its own building on South Wilmington Street in 1954. This Convention would not have survived without God's grace, the founding mem-

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VICE PRESIDENT'S NEWS

From the Desk of the Fourth Vice-President

By Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II – M. Div.

"To the General Baptist family, together with all the saints throughout the



Rev. Nilous Avery, II

world: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 1:1b-2, NIV paraphrased). As I write this article, we are in the midst of transition. By the time this "goes to press", our great convention will have already elected new officers, or will be in the process of doing so.

I would like to take this time and express sincere thanks to our outgoing president, Dr. John D. Fuller. In his own unique and forward manner, Dr. Fuller has led us into the 21st Century. He has led us to confront faith-testing challenges and has also raised critical questions that will greatly impact our ministry for the future.

Thank you, Dr. Fuller, Vice-Presidents Bullock, Grant, Parker, and Davis, other officers, and members of this body for striving to "Reach the Masses" these past four years. A special thanks is extended to Executive-Secretaries Logan, Brodie, auxiliary leaders, and most of all: TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

As we move forward under a new administration, we must be equipped, empowered, and encouraged to wage spiritual warfare on this Christian journey. In

his letter to the church at Ephesus, the Apostle Paul warned the Christian community to never underestimate the strength and impact of Satanic warfare.

In his paraphrase, the *Message*, Eugene Peterson summarizes Ephesians 6:10-18:

"God is strong, and (God) wants you to be strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials.

"And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way. This is no athletic contest that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and his angels.

"Be prepared. You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet. Truth, righteousness, peace,

faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You'll need them throughout your life. God's Word is an indispensable weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out."

General Baptists, let us PRESS ON! We are fueled by a faith in God that embraces the past, encounters the present, and envisions the future. We must PRESS ON by supporting the General Baptist State Convention and its objectives with our gifts and service. We must PRESS ON by endeavoring to worship, work and witness for the Lord. "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV). Amen. ■

"Let All the People Praise Thee"

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

To God Be the Glory! Another year has passed and God has blessed the Woman's Convention in many a way. Many persons have been touched by the

Spirit of Christ through our institutes, Leadership Training Conference, Youth Bible Camp, Family Missions Conference, Youth Evangelism Conference, circles, city/county unions, district

conferences and auxiliaries. God, through many of you has enabled us to realize the past year's budget of \$801,357.00, inclusive of direct contributions sent to some objectives. We are now in the third month of the new fiscal year. Our mission budget for this year is \$806,055.00 which will be distributed among the objectives: Foreign Missions, \$80,200.00; State Missions, \$565,855.00; Shaw University, \$49,500.00; Shaw

Divinity School, \$33,500.00; Central Children Home, \$36,500.00; and Baptist Assembly, \$40,500.00. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention and sent to Woman's Baptist State Convention, P. O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

Our Missionary Training Institutes will convene across the state. If any of you (circles, union, auxiliaries, or others) desire an institute or workshop regarding missionary education, please contact our office at (919) 833-4823 for information, an application, and a certified instructor. The books recommended for study are:

(Senior and Young Adults)	<u>The Keys to Spiritual Growth</u>
(Youth 12-20)	<u>Deepening Discipleship</u>
(Youth 9-11)	<u>Fishers of Men</u>
(Youth 6-8)	<u>Jesus Forgives Peter</u>
(Youth 1-5)	<u>Why I Believe In Jesus</u>

These books may be secured from our office. The theme is "Transforming The Family Through Christian Values/Ethics".

On Saturday, January 11th, 2003, will be the One-Day Session at the Raleigh Convention Center, beginning at 9:00

a.m. Please begin praying for and preparing to attend this session.

The Fall Retreat (November 2002) of the Ministers' Wives Fellowship will be deferred until May, the fourth Saturday, 2003, because of certain circumstances. Further information will be provided later by Mrs. Carolyn Edwards, Chairperson,

and Mrs. Pamela C. Holder, Program Chairperson.

The Youth Evangelism Conference, November 2, 2002, will be at the Northwest High School in Littleton, hosted by the Halifax County Union, Mrs. Audrey

Battle, President. See directions in the October issue of the Baptist Informer.

Our website is www.wbh-fmc.org. Please visit it to learn more about what God is doing through our ministries, objectives, and affiliations.

We are in the season of Thanksgiving. Therefore, let us give thanks and sing more praises to His name. HAVE A BLESSED THANKSGIVING!

"Let All The People Praise Thee"

O-mag-ni-fy the Lord with me, Ye peo-ple of choice, Let all to whom He lend-eth breath Now in His name re-joice; For love's blest rev-e-la-tion, For rest from con-dem-na-tion, For ut-ter-most sal-va-tion to Him give thanks.

O praise Him for His ho-li-ness, His wis-dom and His grace; Sing prais-es for the pre-cious blood Which ran-somed all our race; In ten-der-ness He sought us, From depths of sin He brought us, The way of life then taught us, To Him give thanks.

Had I a thousand tongues to sing, The half could ne'er be told Of love so rich, so full and free, Of bless-ings man-I-fold; Of grace that fail-eth nev-er, Peace flow-ing like a riv-er, From God the glo-rious Giv-er, To Him give thanks.

Chorus:

Let all the people praise Thee, Let all the people praise Thee! Let all the people praise Thy name For-ev-er and for-ev-er-more; for-ev-er-more. O Lord! A-men.

—Mrs. C. H. Morris

The 118th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina

By Ms. Jean Q. Lloyd and contributors

Mrs. Faye Dunbar and Mrs. Phylisa Kelly, Public Relations/Publicity Committee

The 118th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina was held in Winston-Salem, NC at the Benton Convention Center July 28-August 1, 2002. "Reaching the Masses: Transforming the Family Through Christian Communication" was the theme. (Proverbs 23:21 and James 1:2-21) On Sunday evening delegates assembled at New Bethel Baptist Church and witnessed a Communion Service, planned by Mrs. Robbie Diggs and served by the host pastor with the assistance of several participating ministers. Delegates and attendees officially began registration on Monday morning. The Executive Committee, the Executive Board and the General Board meetings were held on Monday beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Monday evening the Johnnie Blount McLester Pre-Convention Banquet was held. Presiding was Mrs. Julius McDonald, President of the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina (WBH&FMC). Dr. W. B. Lewis prayed the invocation and grace. The Chair of the Executive Board, Mrs. Catheryn B.

Walters, gave the welcome on behalf of the WBH&FW of NC. Greetings were brought by Dr. Charles T. Bullock, Vice President at-large at General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (GBSC) in the absence of President John D. Fuller. Mrs. Rebecca Mashianc, a missionary from South Africa, also brought greetings.

Preceding presentation of plaques by President McDonald, Jawan Dow of Mt. Vernon Church, sang "God Has Smiled on Me". Recognition was given to the following Special Workers for dedicated service: Special Workers Beatrice Newell, Beatrice Artis, Florence Richardson, Mattie Richardson, E. B. Penny, Marian Bass, Rosa Bell, Mattie M. Garmon, and Gloria Key. Following was a solo by Mrs. Gloria Becoate. Vice Chair of the Executive Board, Mrs. Eva Geer, introduced the speaker. The keynote speaker was the Reverend Mary Young of Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia. The Antioch Singers rendered music. The Reverend Young brought an inspiring message as she spoke on "The Family from Transformation to Celebration . . . Preaching, Teaching, Healing, and Serving". As she addressed a capacity-filled room, she admonished attendees to go "back to the basics":

1. Get a good education

2. Pray
3. Honor parents
4. Love your brothers and sisters
5. Keep the Golden Rule.

She further gave the charge "To Celebrate!" Then lives and marriages are resolved and families are reunited.

On Tuesday morning, the Leadership Processional, which included missionaries regaled in an array of colors as designated for the districts, proceeded into the assembly room. A large number of district conference chairpersons and county union and auxiliary presidents joined in the march as the congregation sang "We Are Marching to Zion". The call to order was by President McDonald, declaring the first session officially opened.

Following the opening hymn, the scripture was by Mrs. Lora Eason and prayer was led by Mrs. Mattie Garman. Mrs. Doris Burk shared the theme "Reaching the Masses; Transforming the Family Through Christian Leadership", with the scriptural basis in Proverbs 23:21 and James 1:12-27. Ms. Darlene Esters gave the minutes for the Executive Board.

Dr. Priscilla Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, shared convention directives, after having recognized President McDonald in her first presiding position. She explained the inclusion of

several informational handouts contained in the delegate's packet. Concluding her presentation, she shared that she had been led by the Lord to sing "I Am a Living Testimony".

The following reports were given: Committee-on-Committees by Co-Chairperson Mrs. E. B. Penny; Enrollment Committee by First Vice President Mrs. Bronnie Daniels; Public Relations/Publicity Committee by Chairperson Ms. Jean Lloyd; Worship and Praise Committee by Co-Chairperson Mrs. Hilda Smith; Christian Family Life Enrichment Ministries by Chairperson Ms. Darlene Esters; and Christian Education/Curriculum Committee by Chairperson Mrs. Brenda Jones. Recognitions were given to pastors; state auxiliary presidents; past presidents; local circle, union, and auxiliary presidents; district conference chairpersons; new members, and visitors. Greetings were extended by Dr. Archie Logan, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer, GBSC; the Reverend Anthonette Wright, Adoption Program, GBSC; and the Dr. Thurman Everette, Chairman for GBSC Housing Committee. Music was rendered by the convention choir. Dr. Logan introduced

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the Reverend Paul A. Lowe, Jr., pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, Winston Salem, NC, who brought the sermon. Using Matthew 28, verses 16 through 20, he spoke from the theme "The Mission of the Church". He reminded the congregation that the church has a mission; we have a mission and Jesus shared in Matthew what our mission is. An urgent reminder was issued by Reverend Lowe as he shared that the church is not ours; the work is not ours; they all are the Lord's. The call to discipleship was made by Reverend F. O. Bass and the benediction was given.

Tuesday afternoon session opened with President McDonald presiding. Presentations were made by Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director of Children's Home and by Dr. Ernest Pickens, Vice President, Shaw University/Shaw Divinity School.

The Deacons' Wives Fellowship was opened with Mrs. Evelyn McLean presiding. Scripture was read and prayer given by Reverend Josephine McElvine and Mrs. Betty McNeil, respectively. The theme discussion was by Mrs. Leverage George. A skit entitled "The Six C's to Remember to Become Effective Deaconesses" by Dr. Maurice Riley, was presented by the deacons' wives of Bluestone Missionary Baptist Church, Ruffin, NC, Reverend Timothy Warren, pastor. A memorial tribute, led by Mrs. Patricia Russell, was made in memory of Mrs. Yvonne Mitchell, former Youth Supervisor and Camp Director, Mrs. Minnie Armstrong, and others. The memorial tribute concluded with a memorial poem read by Mrs. Mary Swann and prayer by Mrs. Patricia Russell.

Presenting Our Objectives was Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director of the Children's Home, who expressed gratitude to the convention for all they have done; and Dr. Ernest Pickens, Vice President from Shaw University/Shaw Divinity School brought greetings. Mrs. Juanelle Hargrove gave the offertory statement and prayer.

Following was the Ministers' Wives and Widows Fellowship Program with Mrs. Mattie Smith presiding. She gave the prayer, Mrs. Joyce Evans read the scripture and President McDonald brought greetings. Mrs. Lena Johnson introduced the speaker, Mrs. Pamela Holder, MWM&WF Chairperson. She spoke from the theme "Press With All Your Might". The invitation to discipleship and benediction were by Pastor Bill Holder.

Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow, Fourth Vice President, presided at the opening of the Tuesday evening session. Mrs. Josephine Neal and Mrs. Nancy Perry provided the scriptural reading and prayer, respectively. Reverend F. O. Bass, Jr., host pastor,

and Mt. Vernon Church, High Point, host church, were in charge of the Welcome Program. Several musical selections were rendered by the choir. Response was by Mrs. Madgalene Whitley, and second vice president Audrey Battle gave the offertory appeal and prayer. Presentation of the minister was by Reverend Damion Rawlinson. The sermon message was delivered by the Reverend Dr. Lincoln Lee, pastor of Silver Mount Baptist Church, Charlotte. His emphasis was "Go" for God is telling us to "just go". Music was by the choir and altar prayer and benediction by the speaker.

The Wednesday session opened with the leadership march as state officers and Executive Board members processed in. Mrs. Hazel Lewis read the scripture and Mrs. Bessie Landis offered the prayer. Dr. John D. Fuller, President, General Baptist state Convention, brought greetings. He charged the audience to a resounding applaud when he stated that this convention is by far the most focused of its kind.

Dr. Priscilla Brodie, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, presented the annual report. She shared information about the literature used in the various mission study classes. Included in the financial statement were annual budget and expenditures. She gave an appeal for continued support and requested a pledge to help to end the year in "black" by sending donations to the state headquarters. Her closing expression was a sincere "thanks" to missionaries for what they are doing across the state.

Following the Offertory Appeal by Mrs. Louise Robinson, Mr. Reginald McDonald, son of President McDonald introduced her for presentation of her first annual address. President McDonald came forth with a dynamic address and shared God's original formula for the family, giving Genesis 1:28 as the reference. She challenged missionaries to use the formula. Sharing instructions to the young people, she told them the rights parents had to expect obedience from them. Further, she outlined to parents that children also have some rights. Children have the right to expect their parents to be honest, truthful, morally clean and decent. She brought the congregation to a resounding ovation when she stated that she had come too far now and there is "no turning back". In spite of the opportunity to want to turn back, she was determined to live for the Lord and as long as God leads the way, she would follow his lead. Closing with the paradox of our times, she stated that "we have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values; added years to our lives, but not life to our years; and have become long on quantity, but short on quality". She left missionaries charged up as she repeated the words of the hymn "Lead

Me, Guide Me". The address provided great insight as we strive to "reach the masses". Music was provided by the convention mass choir under the directorship of Mr. Camp Waverly, Jr., organist Ms. Barbara Kelly and pianist Mrs. Alice Green.

Third Vice President Linda Inman presided at the Young Adult session opened on Wednesday afternoon. Processioning were the directors, associate directors, and presidents. Second Vice President Ms. Arjanette Wall presided during the young adult session. Ms. Felicia McDougal read the scripture and prayer was by Reverend Paul Mathews. Music was by the E. B. Turner Chorus, First Baptist Church, Lumberton. Mrs. Vanessa Gregory, Young Adult Director, shared that young adults had visited a local rest home. Departmental promotions were Reverend Harold Dixon and Ms. Beverly Imes with Dr. Brodie and President McDonald presenting certificates of promotion. William Payne, Jr., First Waightown Baptist Church, Winston Salem, was the recipient of the 2002 Scholarship. Ms. Kimberly Richardson presented Mrs. Erica Barnhill, young adult president, to present her annual address. She delivered from the subject "The Sower" and challenged that peace, prayer, and patience be sown in good soil; then love, obedience, commitment, and dedication will turn up. Music was rendered by the E. B. Turner Chorus of First Baptist Church, Lumberton.

The Youth session was opened as Ms. Jasmine Davenport, Third Vice President, presided. Sharing the scripture and prayer were Lavar Marlow and Jacquem Thompson. Youth supervisor Mrs. Ellender LeMay gave greetings and presented Project 2003 winners. Winners were as follows: Talent Winners, "Have a Heart" Level #1: Kalen Bryant (first place), Edgecombe County Union; Jessica Jordan (second place), Union County. Level #2: Mt. Zion PG 413 Group, (first place) Brunswick Waccamaw Association; Julius Key (second place). "Have a Heart Financial Winners": Jessica Hinsley, (first place) District 6, Group 1, Kendra Dudley, (second place) Robeson County. "Shaw Project Talent" Level #1: Shanique Lennon (first place), Robeson County Union; Jamea Roberts (second place), Rockingham Union; Level #2: Tensie Taylor (first place tie), Franklin County and Johnston County Union (first place tie); Laquesa Barham (second place). Union Baptist Association Women's Auxiliary; Shaw Financial Winners: Dontrel Anderson (first place), Vance County, Jamea' Andrea Roberts (second place), Rockingham County Union.

Following the introduction of Youth President, Ms. Vernice Lassiter, by Fourth Vice President George Metz, Ms. Lassiter presented her address. She challenged

the youth to "Take An Attitude Check", and lead other youth to Christ. Youth Camp Director, Phylisa Kelly, presented certificates to the Outstanding Campers for the 2002 Camp session. Recipients of the awards were Jonathan Livingston, Vincent Faison, Niola Allen Byrd, Rhea M. Reed, Kendra Gause, Lendra Gause, Joel Briley, Jr., Troy Simmons, Kendrick Morgan, Dyneka Glaspy, Ashlee Wiley, and Michael Evans. The youth choir lifted the congregation to a "musical high" with their youth concert as they worshipped Lord and Savior with praises in song.

During "Foreign Mission Night" which opened on Wednesday evening, Second Vice President, Mrs. Audrey Battle presided. Scripture was read and prayer was given by Mrs. Magdalene Rorie and Minister Bonnie Laney, respectively. St. Stephens Youth Choir, Winston Salem, NC, provided music. Young Adult President and the young adults were in charge of Foreign Mission Infomercial which was led by Ms. Anjanette Wall. Offertory Prayer and Appeal were made by Mrs. Colene Stanley. The slate of officers for the convention was presented by chairperson of Nomination Committee, Mrs. Hazel Lewis. Reverend F. O. Bass introduced Dr. Howard Parker who delivered the sermon. From Psalm 34:1-10, he spoke from the topic, "I Accept the Offer". He enumerated the opportunities given in the offer to magnify the Lord, to receive a spiritual high, to allow others to see the goodness of God, and to lift up the name of the Lord above titles and positions.

The closing session convened on Thursday morning with congregational singing and President McDonald presiding. Mrs. Hilda Smith, Worship Co-chairperson, led the congregational singing; Ms. Vernice Lassiter and Mr. Chris McDonald read the scripture; and Mrs. Adell Burney prayed. Youth president Lassiter gave the theme message. Committee reports followed and Dr. Brodie presented a brief financial report for the week. An expression of "thanks" was given to host pastor and church. Reverend A. C. Batchelor installed the officers for the senior, young adult, and youth departments. The Reverend Holden introduced the speaker. The closing message was by the Reverend Jenkins, Shiloh Baptist Church, Mocksville. With Matthew 22:34-40 for a scripture background, he used the theme, "The Three Commitments of a Christian Life". He reminded the congregation that for a Christian's life to be productive, we must be committed (1) to God, (2) to others and (3) to self. With the closing hymn by the congregation and the benediction by Reverend Jenkins, President McDonald sounded the gavel to close the 118th session of WBH&FM of NC.

The General Baptist State Convention Elects New Ushers President

By Alice W. McNair

The new President elect of the State Ushers is Mr. Forrest M. Eaves Jr. Under his leadership we are looking forward to new programs to educate and inform local church ushers. President Eaves is in the process of forming new committees for 2003. Those committees consist of program, registration, finance, by-laws, memorial, publicity, first aid, historical, and Convention promotion. He will be depending on, and working in close hand with the Executive Committee which consists of First Vice President Mrs. Helen Thompson, Second Vice President Mr. Charles Dunn, Third Vice President Mr. Archie Lofton, Fourth Vice President Mr. Norman Dorsey, Coordinator Nancy High, Dean Reverend Marvin T. Clowney, Assistant Dean Mr. Roy Harris, Parliamentarian Mrs. Mary Williams, Recording Secretary Mrs. Mary Belle, and Assistant Recording Secretary Ms. Joanne McNair. Any other persons interested in serving who are members of Missionary Baptist churches in good standing with the Convention should contact him at: 801 Walnut Avenue, Charlotte, North Carolina 28208, or call (704) 372-5338, fax (704) 372-0014. President Eaves will be looking forward to hearing from you.

A final note from the dean Mr. Charlie Rhoades, in his last workshop held at Martin Street Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina on July 20, 2002, shared with Conventioneers the following guidelines for church ushers.

Ushers should strive for consistency among their group. Everyone needs to be going in the same direction and doing the same things.

Ushers should do nothing to detract from the spirit of worship, or interfere with others within the worship service. Ushers have to prepare to serve within the worship setting.

There are no holidays, dress-down

days, or laid-back days for ushers.

Ushers need to remember their purpose is to serve others.

Ushering is not a position in which you should seek to get honor or recognition.

Church ushers are not on duty to impress, repress, or depress, but serve. A church usher is on duty not to be seen; it is a ministry of service.

On behalf of the State Ushers

Convention, I want to thank Dean Rhodes and Assistant Dean Dr. E. B. Turner for their challenging and rewarding workshops during their tenures. As a result of your combined teaching efforts, the state ushers Convention has grown spiritually and been made a more capable force in our local churches. Both of you will be missed. May God bless you as you have blessed us.

District III Ushers of Charlotte gave an appreciation banquet for outgoing President Charles Fletcher on July 13, 2002, at the Second Calvary Baptist Church. The mistress of ceremony was Mrs. Margaret Chambers and the banquet speaker was Dr. C. V. Owens, the Dean of District III Ushers and pastor of First Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Charlotte. First Vice President Eaves, Chambers, Floyd, Carlson, Matteson, and Dr. Owens gave tributes. The banquet meal was delicious. The District III Ushers unanimously thanked President Fletcher for the support he provided to them during his tenure and let him know that he has exemplified what it is to be a servant empowered by God's spirit.

The Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dunn, North Carolina, where the Reverend Leroy Smith serves as pastor had their Ushers Anniversary September 8, 2002, at 3:00 PM. The guest speaker was the Reverend Harold Boykin, pastor of the Little Piney Grove Baptist Church, Clinton, North Carolina. His choir and ushers were in attendance.

The Mt. Zion Baptist Church's ushers' president is Mrs. Alberta Dixon.

Western Union Ushers, which consists of 21 churches, held their Ushers banquet October 5, 2002, at the Elizabeth Baptist Church in Autryville. President Roy Williams served as the master of ceremony, and pastor Robert Jones was the guest speaker. His sermon text was from Psalms 122:1,2 "I was glad when they said unto me let us go into house of the Lord". It was a very inspiring message. The banquet was well attended with over 100 guests. Among our special guests in attendance was Moderator M. T. Clowney. Roy Williams and Vice President Earlie Melvin both stated that this was a grand occasion.

The North Carolina Baptist Usher Convention Executive Board met on October 5, 2002, at GBSC Headquarters in Raleigh. The session opened at 10:45 AM with President Forrest Eaves presiding. Second Vice President Charles Dunn led devotion, and the introduction of board members and presentation of minutes was read by Mary Thompson. Under

new business it was announced that there would be a state Ushers retreat for all officers to be held at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill on November 8, 9, 2002. The session on Friday would begin at 3:00 PM and Saturday at 9:30 AM. President Eaves announced the next board meeting would be on October 28, 2002, at 9:10 AM in Fayetteville. In addition there would be an installation service of all officers on Thursday, October 31, 2002, at Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Fayetteville at 11:45 AM.

Third Vice President Archie Lofton gave a finance and budget report for 2003. The State Ushers Convention is doing well. Dismissal and closing prayer were recited in unison:

Lord, help us to appreciate the work that others do, the service given from their hearts, and their sacrifices for you. Help us to be faithful, and leave the results in your hands. Amen.

Send Ushers news to P. O. Box 105, Newton Grove, North Carolina 28366. ■

Center Baptist Gastonia, NC

This is Pastor Pierre Crawford, Pastor of the Center Baptist Church located in Gastonia, NC, on south New Hope Road, two miles south of Ashbrook High School. We are delighted to announce that beginning on the First Sunday in October, 2002, we will begin our 8:00am Early Morning Worship Service. This will be followed by Sunday School at 9:30 and our second worship service at 11:00am.

On Wednesday we have Noon day Bible Study from 12:00-1:00pm. We also have another Bible Study from 7:00-

8:00pm.

To aid in our worship experience we have a Historical Hymn Choir, Musical Choir, Praise and Worship Team, Combined Choir, Praise Dancers, Men Choir and a Youth Choir. This is directed by our Minister of Music, Bishop Dr. Billy Beatty.

So come on out to Center Baptist Church and help us lift up the name of Jesus. To God Be The Glory For The Great Things He Has Done.

Oh, by the way, the dress is casual! ■

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST USHERS CONVENTION WORKSHOP

MR. FORREST M. EAVES, JR.
PRESIDENT

WHEN: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2002

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

WHERE: J.J. JOHNSON BAPTIST ASSEMBLY
LAUREL HILLS, NORTH CAROLINA

REGISTRATION: \$10.00

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST USHER'S CONVENTION DRESS CODES

FEMALE USHER'S UNIFORM:

WHITE UNIFORM OR WHITE SUIT
WITH WHITE SHOES (HEEL & TOES
ENCLOSED), WHITE HOSE AND
WHITE GLOVES

MALE USHER'S UNIFORM:

BLACK SUIT WITH WHITE SHIRT,
BLACK TIE, BLACK SOCKS WITH
BLACK SHOES AND WHITE GLOVES

122nd Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

"Vision, Integrity, Structure, and Accountability" (VISA)

Submitted by Diane M. Newell, President
Congress of Christian Education,
GBSC, N.C., Inc.

The city of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Host Committee, the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Pennsylvania Baptist State



Diane
Newell

Convention, and the General Baptist State Convention of New Jersey welcomed the 122nd Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. to the city of "Brotherly Love" September 2-6, 2002. It was reported that the attendance at the convention was expected to be 30,000 to 35,000 delegates. The Reverend Dr. William J. Shaw, President of NBCUSA, Inc., in an interview with *The Philadelphia Tribune*, said "Vision, Integrity, Structure, and Accountability" would be the guiding force of the activities scheduled for the week. The theme of the organization (VISA) is the focus of Dr. Shaw's administration.

VISION — A Convention with a focus on doing Christ's work in this world. John 14:12

INTEGRITY — A Convention where all operations, finances and programs meet the high standards of Christ. Matthew 5:16

STRUCTURE — A Convention with the proper infrastructure to carry out Christ's mission in a manner that involves the total body. Titus 1:5

ACCOUNTABILITY — A Convention accountable to its members and God. Corinthians 4:1-2

Dr. Shaw gives testimony to the power of the Holy Spirit in the rebirth and restructuring of the organization. "He continues to mold us into an increasingly God-centered body through His steps of preaching, teaching and healing."

That process of healing led to Dr. Shaw attending an invitation to Dr. Major Jemison, President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. to be the keynote speaker for the President's Education Banquet. The "Brotherly Love" spirit of Philadelphia premediated this session. For it was 42 years ago, 1960 at the 80th Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention held in Philadelphia that members of NBCUSA left the convention and created the

Progressive National Baptist due to a difference of opinion in the implementation of programs. This gesture demonstrated affirmation of the scripture that teaches although we have different administration we serve the same God. Dr. Shaw quoted, "This year's annual session will be the vehicle for an historical reuniting of two great religious bodies."

Other highlights from the convention included the announcement of retiring of the mortgage debt on the World Baptist Center headquarters of National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. in Nashville, Tennessee. Lectures, preaching and teaching were centered around the 122nd Annual Session Theme: "Christ Jesus Only, Always" (1 Corinthians 2:2). Baptism and Mass Communion was observed at Temple University's Liacouras Center. Forty-three new converts were baptized and added to the kingdom through the efforts of the Evangelistic Outreach Team in neighboring communities in Philadelphia and Camden, New Jersey. One additional convert presented herself from the congregation. The youngest convert to be baptized was five years old and the oldest a 63-year-old man. The 122nd Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. was declared and adjourned high in the spirit of the Lord following the Holy Communion. The 123rd Annual Session is scheduled to be held in Kansas City, Missouri.

Test Your Knowledge of NBCUSA, Inc.

1. The National Baptist Convention was founded where and when?
 - a. 1960 Philadelphia, PA
 - b. 1880 Montgomery, AL
 - c. 1910 Chicago, IL
2. Who was the first president of National Baptist Convention?
 - a. Reverend W. H. Alpine, Alabama
 - b. Reverend Dr. Henry Lyons
 - c. Reverend W. Bishop Johnson, Washington, DC
3. What was the first convention formed as a split from the National Baptist Convention?
 - a. Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.
 - b. National Baptist Convention of America
 - c. Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention
4. How old is the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc.?
 - a. 122 years old
 - b. 100 years old
 - c. 135 years old

Why was the National Baptist Convention developed?

Answers:

- (b) The convention was founded in 1880 by 150 Baptist pastors who met in Montgomery, Alabama, formerly known as the Baptist Mission Convention (BMC). On September 28, 1895 in Atlanta, Georgia united with other African American Baptists to form one organization named National Baptist Convention.
- (a) Reverend W. H. Alpine of Alabama was elected the first president at the meeting in Montgomery, Alabama.
- (c) In 1897 a group of National Baptist pastors left the convention and formed the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention.
- (a) The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. is 122 years old. The National Baptist Convention was developed as a means for Black churches to move away from the White associations to have liberties, freedom of expression and participation. Black Baptists in the early 1840s began to see the need to expand the work of the convention with that of others

across state lines.

- * 1840 New York and Middle Atlantic formed the American Baptist Missionary Convention.
- 1864 Black Baptist in the South and West formed the Northwestern Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.
- 1866 American Baptist, Northwestern Baptist and Southern Baptist joined together to form the Consolidated American Baptist.
- 1867 Baptist in Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia, Arkansas and Kentucky formed their own state conventions with the help of the Consolidated Convention. (General Baptist State Convention, NC was born.)
- 1873 Black Baptist of the West formed the General Association of the Western States and Territories.
- 1874 The East organized the New England Baptist Missionary Convention.

Information Source:
Article in *Philadelphia Tribune*, Sept. 1, 2002
Internet, www.nationalbaptist.com
National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.
Constitution

GBSC Is Available To Work With Churches

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Greetings! The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina is available to work with your church during the time you do not have a Pastor. We will work with the Deacons and other officers to provide guidance as you search for a new pastor to lead your church.

Some of the things we offer:

- We have ordained Baptist ministers available to assist the Deacons in carrying out the Church Ordinances: Lord Supper and Baptism.
- We have ordained clergy who can serve as an "Interim Minister" in your church.
- Some suggested workshops:
 - ✓ How To Select An Interim Pastor?
 - ✓ How To Call A Pastor?
 - ✓ How Much Should We Pay Our Pastor?
 - ✓ Church Administration
 - ✓ How To Plan A Church Budget
 - ✓ Effective Bible Study
 - ✓ Evangelism Classes
 - ✓ Special Training For Deacons/Trustees
 - ✓ Christian Education Planning
 - ✓ Church Development
 - ✓ Please call if you are interested in any of these services!
 - ✓ 1-800-639-GBSC (4272)

"Maybe It Will Go Away"

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed

As I perused the AD PAK, a local paper which is adequately described by its name, I was enlightened by one particular advertisement. It began with what



Dr. Jasper Reed

suffering, disappointment, failure and many other conditions. I concluded that not only our physical health but our Spiritual health is also affected by this mode of thinking. To that end they apply to GBSC; its members, churches, associations, and districts. The words Maybe It Will Go Away establishes a frame of reference that entices us to seek refuge in

the vendor, in this case a Doctor, described what he considered the Five Most Dangerous Words we can use in our everyday experiences. These words "Maybe it will go away", are the root causes for future pain,

their broad connotation.

Over the past years I have been blessed to receive, on your behalf, from people around this nation accolades heralding the greatness and uniqueness of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. They were and are impressed by its structure, stability, vision, ministries, and cohesiveness. Yet, some members of the GBSC are acting like the children of Israel did before the Lord sent Jeremiah to preach to them. The essence of the message from the Lord was - Jeremiah remind them that they are blessed and have a good thing. However tell them that because of obstinacy, contrariness, and arrogance they can lose it as they now know it.

Let us bring Jeremiah 25:1-7 and 26:12-13 into our lives today. The prophetic voice of our time is our dynamic Spiritual President Dr. Fuller. He has been, over the years, a tremendous Spiritual force in trying to guide the convention through these trying times. His message has been one which challenges us to return to the times when we put away our differences and worked to make the GBSC what it is today. Those times

when our love for God was exhibited by our love and support for the convention and each other. It, GBSC, understood its vision, mission, and ministries as reflected by the input of its members at each level necessary to make it the unique organization that it is today. Just think all of North Carolina Missionary Baptists united under a single banner. O what prayer power, economic power, and social changing power we have as a group. Even though Dr. Fuller is the present voice he was not the only one. The Lord loves unity under His Christian banner so much so that we can point to five living past presidents who carried the same message maybe in a different format. Drs. Edwards, Manly, Turner, Lewis, and Jones all challenged us to think unity, get involved, and support our strong and unique convention. It appears that the more we hear this message the more we demonstrate that if we do nothing that which we dislike about the convention will somehow go away. Not so said Jeremiah, if we do nothing it will get worse and what was great will be reduced to a none functional body without directions.

Let me return again to Jeremiah and apply his words to us this day. In chapter 26 verses 12-13 set the stage for our actions. This current President and the five Past Presidents were saying the same thing that Jeremiah did in their own sermon pattern. I am sure that it was and still is the Spirit of God that is keeping these issues before us. Listen how the TEV states it. The Lord sent me to proclaim everything that you have heard about the convention; its members, churches, associations, and districts. A response to our demonstrated decision, "Maybe it will go away", is found in verse 13. There the message is clear. We must review and alter our methods of evaluating those things and actions that will make the GBSC greater and more ministry minded. That is what the Lord wants from us. Unless we are willing to do the things necessary to make the convention grow then the word coming forth as you read the remainder of this chapter is saying NO, it will not go away and the GBSC will lose its effectiveness and credibility in God's sight. ■

Debt Can Enslave Nations as Well as Individuals

By Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator

First, we should recognize the evil nature of debt. The Bible looks upon debt as a form of slavery. Proverbs 22:7 says that "the borrower becomes the



Dr. Portia Brandon

lender's slave".

When we are in debt as individuals, we can see how this constrains our choices. Debt can enslave nations as well as individuals. Second, we should condemn the indifference of government to budget deficits and perpetual indebtedness.

Thirdly, Psalms 37:21 condemns one who "borrows and does not pay back". Old Testament laws prohibited both perpetual debt and multiple indebtedness, and we would do well to remember that God's economic laws cannot be broken without consequences.

How should we spend money? God demands the first fruits. Thereafter, we must provide for our family's material needs. Paul tells Timothy (I Tim. 5:8) that anyone who "does not provide for his own, especially for those of his household

... had denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel". First priority, then, is to learn to live within our means to provide the necessary food, clothing, and shelter. But, we should also provide for those in need outside members of our family: first, for those in the body of Christ, and then for others outside the household of faith.

The Bible also teaches that we should pay our debts. One of the major problems facing most families today is debt. Elisha told the widow to "sell the oil and pay your debts" (2 Kings 4:7). Paul admonished the Romans "to let no debt remain outstanding" (Rom. 13:8).

Thus a proper biblical attitude towards money includes both how we derive it and how we disburse it.

What general rule is laid down in the Bible respecting the meeting of obligations?

"Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom . . . Owe no man any thing, but to love one another." Romans 13:7, 8.

In what condition is one who borrows?

"The borrower is servant to the lender." Proverbs 22:7.

How does the good man guide his affairs?

"A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion." Psalm 112:5.

To what should those listen who lack business discretion?

"Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured." Proverbs 13:18.

Which of Christ's parables teaches business discretion?

"For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish." Luke 14:28-30.

These examples furnish good lessons on financing gospel enterprises. In each instance, it will be noticed, the means were provided before the work of building was begun. No debt, therefore, was created. In all business transactions this plan is an excellent one to follow.

What provision did David make for building the Temple?

"I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God." 1 Chronicles 29:2.

How did the people respond to his call for contributions?

"Then the chief of the fathers and princes . . . offered willingly . . . Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the Lord: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy." Verses 6-9.

When King Jehoshaphat wished to repair the Temple, what provision did he make for raising the necessary means?

"And Jehoshaphat said to the priests, All the money of the dedicated things that is brought into the house of the Lord, . . . and all the money that cometh into any man's heart to bring into the house of the Lord, let the priests take it to them, every man of his acquaintance: and let them repair the breaches of the house, wheresoever any breach shall be found." 2 Kings 12:4, 5.

When, after sixteen years, it was found that these repairs had not yet been made, what was done?

"Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in the lid of it, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one cometh into the house of the Lord: and the priests that kept the door put therein all the money that was brought into the house of the Lord." Verse 9. ■

Faith and Fitness

The Status of Our Health
"Lay Aside the Weight of Smoking"
 By Charolette H. Leach, M. S.

Last month I began sharing information about the status of the health of Black America, looking at information presented in the Annual Black Health &



Charolette Leach

Fitness Section of the July 2002 issue of Ebony Magazine. In this article, we will focus on the top cause of death of African Americans, which is heart disease and a critical risk factor of this killer.

In 1999, heart disease was the

cause of an average of approximately 6,500 African American deaths per month. The disparity in occurrences of heart disease is greatest for African American women. We have a 69 percent higher death rate from heart disease than our white counterpart. Three reasons were given for this disparity, a higher prevalence of hypertension, diabetes, and obesity among Black women.

The article went on to state that in the midst of this grim news, there is some good news. Preventing or controlling certain risk factors can reduce the risks of having a heart attack, even if you have already had one. Smoking was the first risk factor that was listed. The chance of a fatal or non-fatal heart attack is greatly increased in someone who smokes cigarettes. The risk of a second heart attack is also increased among heart attack survivors who smoke. Research has shown that quitting smoking greatly reduces the risk of a heart attack.

I must admit, that over the last few years as I have encouraged others toward better health, my major focus has been on improving one's nutrition, and stepping up one's exercise or physical activity. Even though these are two very important steps, I was surprised to see the need to quit smoking as the first risk factor listed with regard to heart disease. There are a couple of reasons that I have not targeted in on the need to quit smoking as a crucial step to improve health.

First, I grew up with an understanding that smoking was not good for your health, but my belief was that smoking could lead to lung cancer. I felt that if you were able to avoid lung cancer, then smoking was not that detrimental to your overall health. I now understand that smoking is very detrimental to one's health and has negative effects in many ways. My clearer understanding of the

problem with smoking began about a year ago, when I read an article by a gentleman who was living with the complications of diabetes. He stressed the importance of not smoking to avoid problems with circulation.

Another reason that I have not focused on smoking is because of my target audience, which is usually the Church or Christians. It is easy to identify the need to improve nutrition in our congregations, because we know that food is a critical part of the activities of the black church and our history proves that we have not always made healthful food choices. The need for more physical activity is also obvious in our churches, because of the prevalence of obesity in the pulpit and in the pews. Smoking is more subtle. I couldn't name five persons who smoke at my home church, Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, but I am sure that the habit is prevalent. People for the most part choose not to share the habit of smoking. Smoking is menacing and is an addiction. I have relatives and friends who smoke and deep in their hearts would love to quit. I have mentioned the health problems of my mother and use her as an example here. After she went through surgery about nine months ago to unclog the main artery in her neck, hopefully to avoid the occurrence of another stroke, the doctor informed her that she needed to quit smoking. My mother's response to his statement was "Tell me how I'm supposed to do that". Keep in mind that my mother, God willing, will turn 70 on Christmas Day 2002 and began smoking as a teenager. With that in mind, we understand that quitting smoking is not something that you decide to do today and then do on tomorrow. It would be wonderful if it were that easy, but we know that it is not.

The fact that quitting is such a difficult thing to do, helps me to understand why it is something that needs to be accomplished in the life of a Christian. We as Christians must step up to the challenges before us, no matter how difficult. It takes spiritual strength and gives true meaning to the words of Paul in Philippians 4:13,

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me".

A person who is able to give up cigarettes by trusting and believing in the Word of God has to have a special relationship with our Creator.

Wherefore seeing that we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Hebrews 12:1

This great cloud of witnesses refers to all the persons of faith that are listed in

the 11th Chapter of Hebrews, but this great cloud of witnesses could easily be those who have by faith overcome the hold of cigarettes and tobacco on their lives. If you have by the grace of God been able to give up tobacco use, please



Dr. Anita Holmes

do not keep it to yourself. There are others who are trying to quit, and they can receive strength from your testimony. You may be able to inspire faith in them.

Smoking and tobacco use is a weight that we do not need in

our lives. There is enough negative in our everyday lives that we must deal with that we have no control over. It must be believed that this habit can be broken, so that we can run with patience the race that God has set for us.

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2

Receiving inspiration from those who have kicked this habit can be very beneficial, but the person trying to become free of cigarettes and tobacco, must always look to Jesus, because without Jesus, there is no access to faith. Jesus alone started and will finish our faith. Also, considering what Jesus endured on the cross should provide inspiration to endure the nicotine withdrawal. Keep in mind that you will be a healthier and better-equipped Christian after all is said and done.

As we consider the status of our health, we must determine that we are going to make changes in our individual lives to improve our health, all to the glory of God. Heart disease is the number one killer of African Americans, but there is always hope, as long as we are willing to take some action. If you smoke, make the decision to quit and then take action. Suggestions for quitting can be found at the following web site: www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/other/chdblack/refresh1.htm

Take some action and then share your success with someone else. Next month we will take a look at the other two suggested risk factors that help with the development of heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes. Be Blessed! ■

COLLEGE DAY FAIR

Sponsored by First Baptist Church and Fayetteville State University

First Baptist Church
 302 Moore Street
 Downtown Fayetteville



Saturday, December 14, 2002
10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

ALL AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & THEIR PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

We have invited 58 colleges and universities from six states to be available just for you! Take advantage of this opportunity to talk with representatives from colleges and universities about their respective institutions! First hand information! In one convenient location! Financial Aid Workshops will be available.

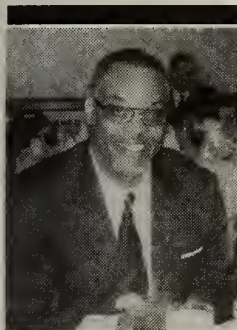
OVER 50 COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES FROM NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA, VIRGINIA, GEORGIA, FLORIDA, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THE NAVAL ACADEMY, AND WEST POINT ACADEMY HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE! DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!

For more information, Contact: Mrs. Ruth Smith @ (910) 483-6505 or Ms. Nikki Massey @ (910) 675-1172.

The Church's Mission in the Midst of Crime & Incarceration

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman
Jeff Locus, Co-Chairman



Rev. Michael Smith, Sr.

The Institutional & Specialized Ministries has concluded our 2nd Annual Crime and Incarceration Conference at the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, North Carolina. I want to thank

all our resource persons, keynote lecturers and especially my Pastor, Dr. David C. Forbes, Sr., for their support and pres-

ence. May Father God richly bless each of you as you continue to promote the cause of Jesus Christ and His kingdom.

Our theme for the conference was "The Church's Mission in the Midst of Crime and Incarceration". The recent national and local news has dealt with a serial killer in Maryland, corporate corruption, losing 23 N. C. state-funded chaplains and the prison industrial complex. I want to ask you a question. Does the local church you are a part of have an effective outreach ministry in the area of crime and incarceration? I pray you can say yes, but in reality I know many of you cannot. I pray that will change soon for many local churches in the GBSC. There must be change and church leadership must step up first if there is to be a change. By the time you read this article,

the GBSC would have elected a new President. My prayer is our new President will move the crime and incarceration crisis up from a committee status to a major objective of this convention.

The prisons are the fastest growing and largest mission field in our country. The lives that are impacted by crime and incarceration come from our homes and communities. They are our mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, nephews and cousins. Therefore, I strongly appeal to our GBSC leadership to prioritize this mission in our convention. We must do it for the sake of the future of our communities.

The Church's mission in the midst of crime and incarceration is to reach, reconcile and restore broken lives. The Apostle Paul spoke about the ministry of reconciliation given to the local church. Sadly, in our times, much from our pulpits only deals with the church getting God to give them more materialism and personal prosperity. This misguided

teaching sabotages the mission of reconciliation because it puts the emphasis on our selves instead of others in need. Most churches annual budgets will reflect they spend more on flowers for their sanctuaries, than on prison ministry to reconcile human life. Since I have been the chairman of the committee, only a few GBSC leaders have even mentioned their concern to invest financially in prison ministry. So I raise the question again, Does the church have a mission in the midst of crime and incarceration? Jesus says yes His church does. I believe His death on the cross in the midst of two criminals is an eternal reminder that the church should not forget the "least of these" in our society.

Our challenge is for GBSC leadership to promote this area of mission and encourage the local church to become involved. I pray you will read our 2001-2002 Annual Report and continue to support the church's mission in the midst of crime and incarceration.

General Baptist State Convention of NC Institutional & Specialized Ministries Annual Report September 1, 2001 - August 31, 2002

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman

Greeting in the powerful Name of our Lord Jesus the Christ!

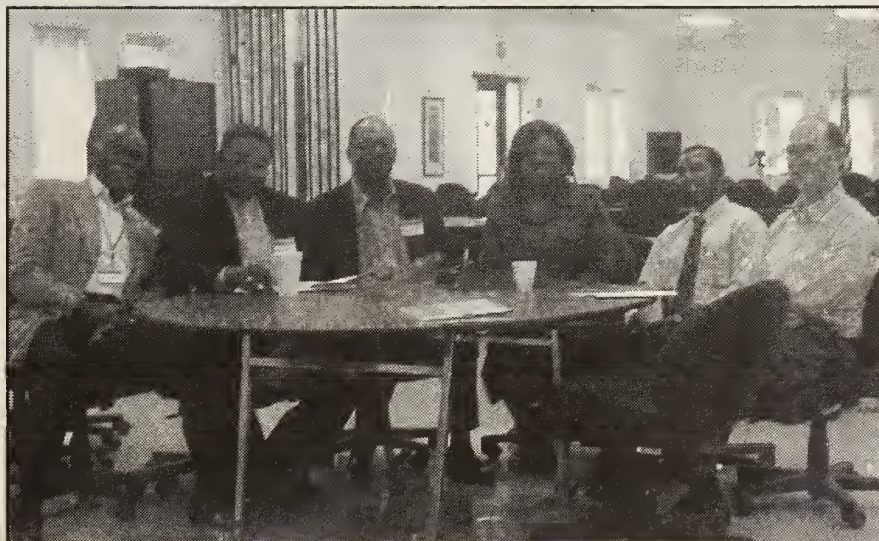
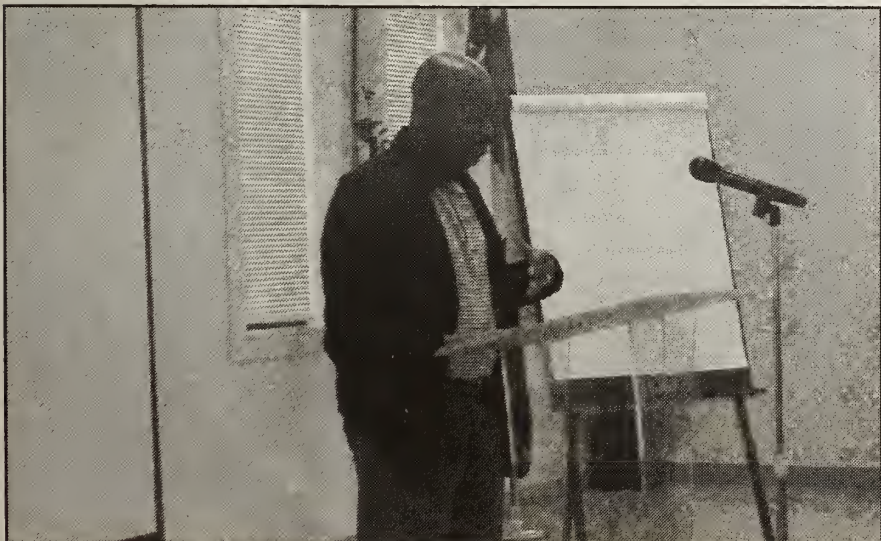
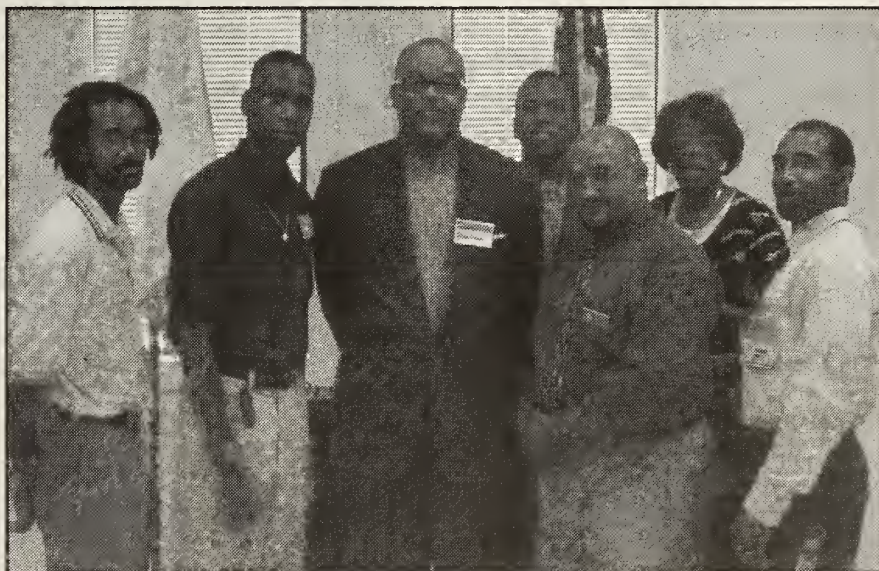
This past year has been one filled with much progress and ministry for the cause of the Kingdom of God. The ISM has been blessed with many opportunities to provide training and exposure in calling people to join our coalition of ministries in reaching, reconciling and restoring human lives impacted by crime and incarceration. I believe the state of North Carolina will experience the impact of the revival going on in the midst of the prisons and jails. The Spirit of God is birthing and equipping persons to respond to this great mission field. The prisons represent the fastest growing mission field in this country. I will continually call the

GBSC executive leadership to understand the impact of the crime and incarceration crisis. The only quality response is to move this mission from a committee status to an objective in this convention. To do anything less, is to continue to ignore a major segment of our communities. This equals disobedience to the Great Commission and our call to the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

ISM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- *1st Annual Crime & Incarceration Conference
- November 30 - December 1, 2001
Shaw University Divinity School - Raleigh, NC
- *Production of ISM Training Video for GBSC Churches - December 17, 2001

See STORY, Next Page



INSTITUTIONAL & SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES

STORY, Cont'd From Page 11

- Black Issues Form – Host Jay Holloway – UNC Television
- *Criminal Justice Sunday – 1st Presbyterian Church – February 17, 2002 – Raleigh, NC
- *Kingdom Mission Church – At Risk Youth Training – February 24, 2002 – Raleigh, NC
- *St. John Baptist Church Laymen League Aftercare Training Workshop – Asheboro, NC
- *United Shiloh Association Prison Training Workshops – March 4-8, 2002 – Henderson, NC
- *Establishment of Church Plant – Cross of Christ Church – March 3, 2002
- Federal Correctional Complex – Butner, NC
- *Jackson Chapel Baptist Church Prison Training – March 16, 2002 – Wilson, NC
- *Tabernacle Baptist Church Prison Workshop – March 29, 2002 – Gastonia, NC
- *Development of ISM Informational Brochure for GBSC Churches
- *Prison Fellowship Training Event – April 26-

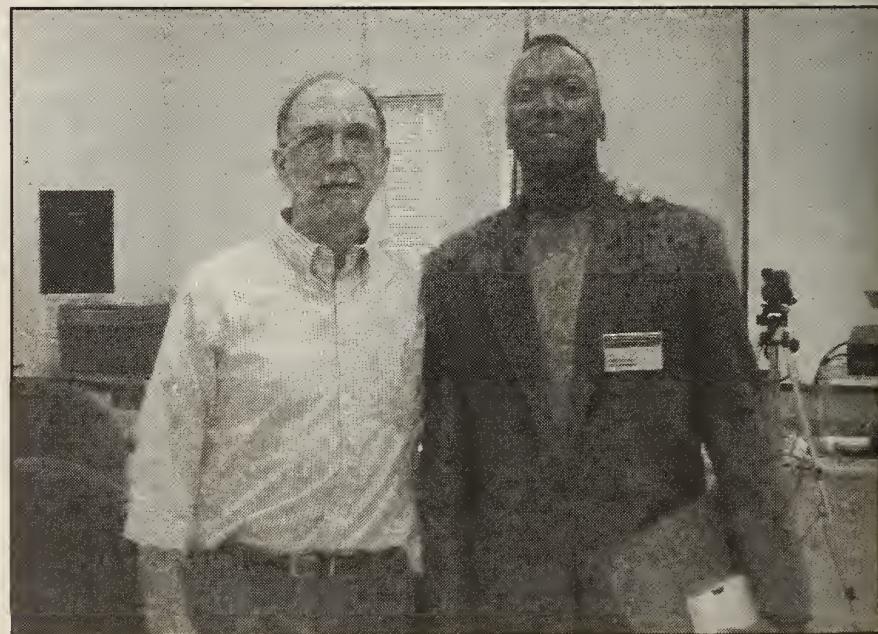
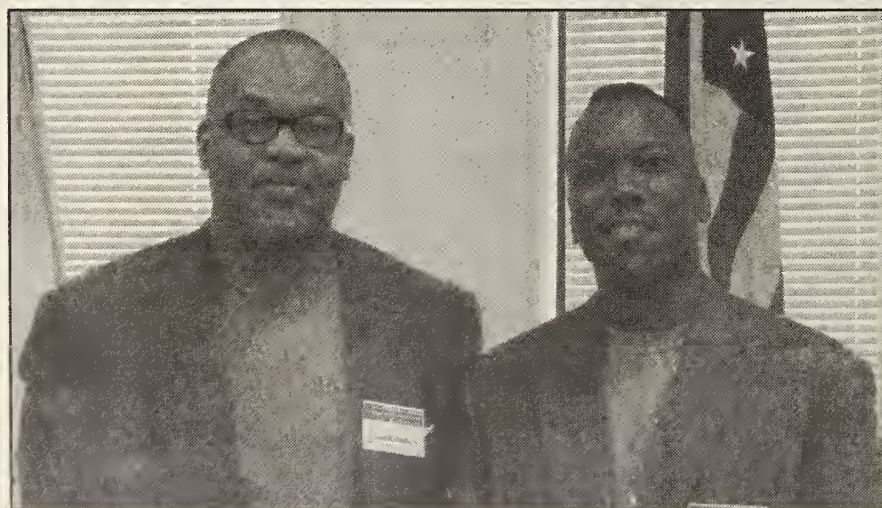
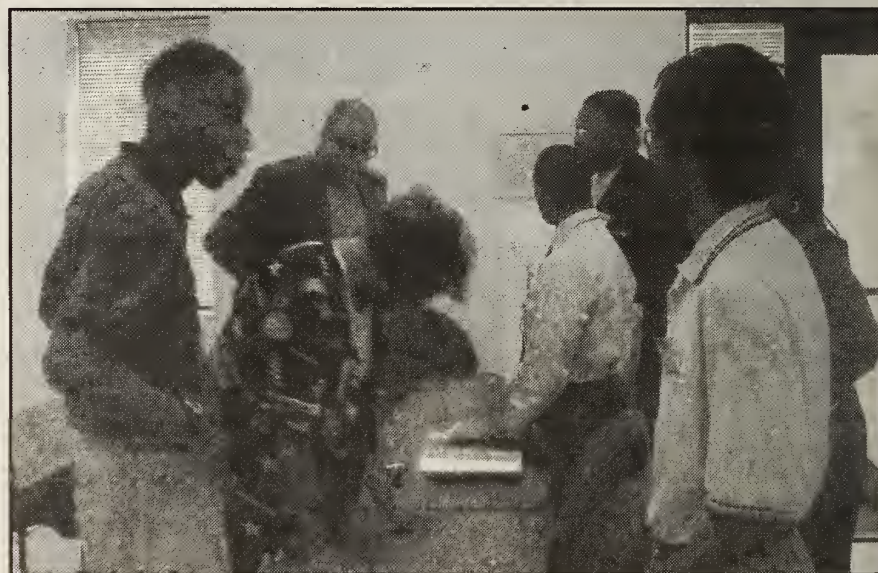
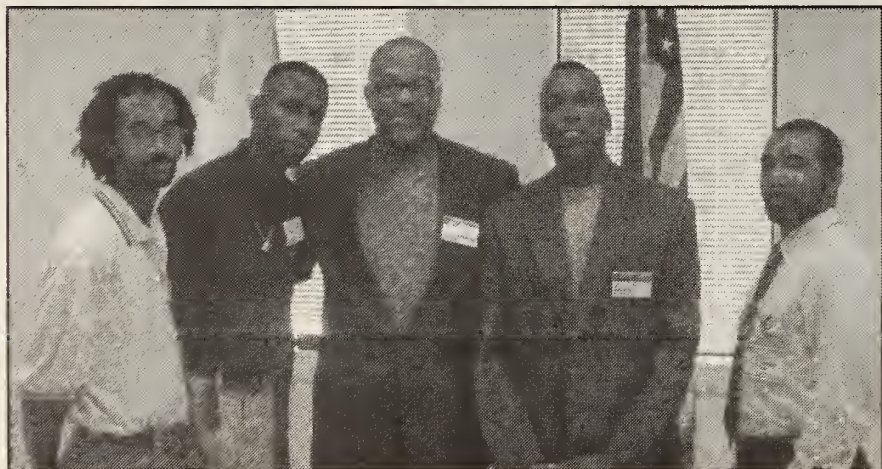
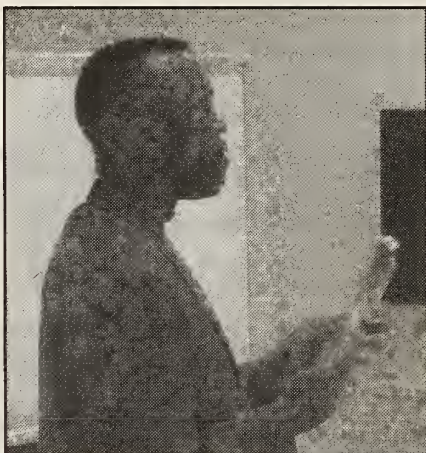
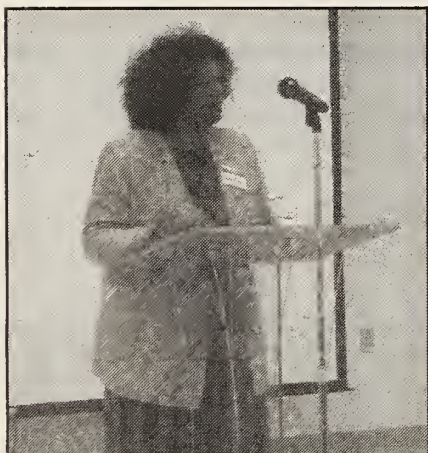
- 27, 2002 – Charlotte, NC
- *Shiloh Baptist Church – Guest Speaker – May 26, 2002 – Henderson, NC
- *Democracy South Ex-Felon Reinfraction Conference – June 14-15, 2002 – Atlanta, GA
- *Body of Christ Church Prison Training – July 13, 2002 – Raleigh, NC
- *Parks Chapel Community Outreach – August 17, 2002 – Fayetteville, NC

The N. C. Legislature is strongly considering the cutting of the positions of state funded chaplains. This is a major blow to prison ministry. I encourage all GBSC churches to step forward to help fill the void of leadership to persons in our prisons. Let the ISM equip you to respond effectively. Lastly, I want to thank all the ISM coordinators and co-laborers around the state who are responding to the crime and incarceration crisis. ■

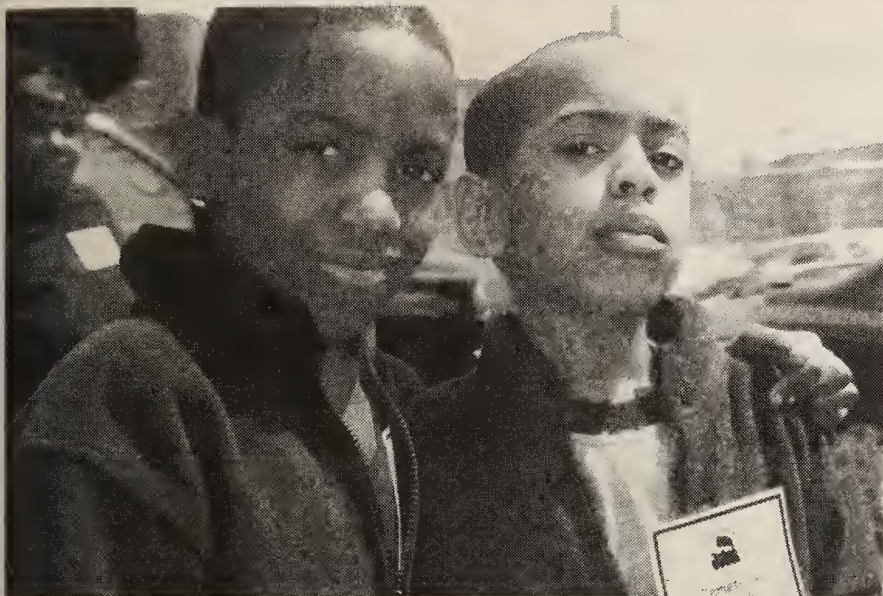
INSTITUTIONAL & SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES LEADERSHIP

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman
Senior Chaplain/Pastor – Federal Correctional Complex, Butner, NC
Jeff Locus, Co-Chairman
Chaplain/Pastor – Pamlico Correctional Institution, Bayboro, NC
Betty Brown, Coordinator of In-Prison Ministries
Chaplain/Pastor – NC Correctional Institution for Women, Raleigh, NC
Wright Cadwell, Coordinator of In-Prison Ministries
Associate Minister – First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
Paul Bridges, Coordinator of Aftercare Ministries
Associate Minister – First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
Carolyn Brown, Coordinator of Aftercare Ministries

Associate Minister – North End Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, NC
Laura Johnson, Coordinator of Victim Ministries
Assistant Pastor – First Baptist Church, Zebulon, NC
Leonard Shadding, Coordinator of Victim Services
Member – First African Baptist Church, Goldsboro, NC
Michael Pope, Coordinator At-Risk Youth Ministries
Associate Minister – Oak City Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
Wavey B. Williams, Coordinator of At-Risk Youth Ministries
Youth Pastor – A.R.M.Y. of CHRIST Ministry, Gastonia, NC



ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE NEWS



Introducing Christopher and Demetrece...

Christopher and Demetrece are both small for their age, but healthy and happy little boys. They both love to eat spaghetti and go to McDonald's. Their foster mom says both are good boys, but when they occasionally act up, she sends them to their room to think about it and then they are able to discuss the problem. Loss of privileges works very well, too. Both

boys take medication that allows them to stay more focused and on task in school.

A Closer Look at Christopher...

Christopher has many interests. He loves to sing and he sings in the church choir. He also loves to volunteer to do things at church, such as pass out fans. Christopher's favorite activity is drawing and he plans to be an artist when he grows up. He also likes to watch cartoons,

play with his Game Boy or play checkers and board games. Christopher attends regular classes at school, although he does attend a resource class for math and reading. A proposed tutoring program at his school would be of great benefit toward helping Christopher stay on his grade level in these subjects. Birthday: August 25, 1990

A Closer Look at Demetrece...

Demetrece is not as outgoing as his brother is, but he still enjoys having fun. He also sings well, but sometimes he would rather sit by his foster mom in church than sing with the choir. Demetrece likes to play with the Game Boy or his remote control cars, watch TV or play computer games. He'd rather be inside than play outdoors, but Demetrece does like to ride his bike with his friends. Demetrece cuts up in school sometimes and occasionally needs to be put into a different classroom. He likes to be first to choose what game to play, but even though he might get upset when he can't, Demetrece does not act out in an aggressive or inappropriate way. Birthday: December 25, 1992

A Family for Christopher and Demetrece...

These boys have done extremely well with their foster parents and have grown very close to them. Their foster mom is very strict about what she expects and what she will "put up with," but she is also very nurturing. Christopher and Demetrece both know the rules and are very good about minding them. They need a stable, consistent home with a loving and nurturing family. If they know from the beginning that the parent is in charge, there will be fewer difficulties. Christopher and Demetrece need to have continued contact and visits with their sisters and their birth mom. They are able to see her without being upset, and it is important that they know she is okay. An adoptive family for Christopher and Demetrece needs to be supportive and open minded. (NC #092-868) (NC #092-867) For more information on these children or adoption in general, please call the NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care Network's toll free Hotline at 1-877-NCKIDS-1 (1-877-625-4371)

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Observes National Adoption Month with its own Special Celebration

By Earl Horton

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

Director of Public Relations

National Adoption Month is observed in the United States during the month of November. This month many child welfare agen-

cies are planning state and local events throughout the nation to increase awareness of adoption for children in need of a family to call their own. Also,



Dr. Earl Horton

this observance is endorsed by more than 200 denominations and religious organizations. This observance unites many religious congregations in speaking out and faithfully recruiting homes for children who are in need of permanency. The GBSC Adoption and

Foster Care Ministry would like to join in the adoption observance by announcing our "GBSC Adoption Sundays".

The purpose of the GBSC Adoption Sunday is to increase awareness of the need for adoption, to recruit families who have interest in adoption, and to recognize families from church congregations who have adopted children.

On each Sunday in November the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry is seeking support of all GBSC Pastors to incorporate into their morning sermons topics pertaining to adoption. The church may choose which Sunday to observe "GBSC Adoption Sundays". We hope that the pastor's endorsement of adoption in their sermons would generate interest of adoption in the congregations. Also, we seek the church support by having the church body pledging to recruit at least one family that has interest in adop-

tion. We request for pastors to designate someone in your congregation who will have the duty of recruiting families for adoption during this observance.

There are other activities that churches can do besides the morning service. For example, the church could sponsor a recruitment seminar and ask a Social Services representative to come and discuss adoption and foster care or host a candlelight vigil that will increase awareness of the need for adoption. These are just a few ideas churches can do to observe National Adoption Month.

The ministry would like to

know of the churches that would be willing to participate in the "GBSC Adoption Sunday" observance. Pastors or church leaders, please contact Earl Horton at the GBSC Headquarters to inform of your church interest to participate in the observance.

If any church would like to be featured in the next issue of the Baptist Informer highlighting events held at the church during the GBSC Adoption Sunday, please send them to GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610, or fax (919) 212-3656.

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Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Association Moderator C.A. Feemster

Reflections

The 112th Annual Session was opened by Dr. William J. Shaw, President of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Dr. Shaw explained his principles of Visions, Integrity, Structure and Accountability.



Dr. William Shaw and Moderator C. A. Feemster

Dr. Shaw with Moderator Feemster and Pastors of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Association.

Jamaica 2002
Our 1st Global Mission Trip
Praying, Teaching, Preaching
Caring and Sharing



Recognizing Our Youth

Layman League
WMU Ushers Christian Education



Seniors Night Out



More than 250 gather for fellowship



Talent



Crafts



Modeling Contestants



From the Office of the Third Vice President Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School News

By Reverend Norman T. Davis

Greetings to all my sisters and brothers across the state. Peace be unto you from the Lord Jesus Christ.

These are perilous times. If there ever was a time we need the Lord, it is now.



Rev. Norman T.
Davis

When we see the news and read the paper it seems like many of our youth are getting into trouble. Pastors, pray for our youth and don't write them off. We all have had our youth hour and moments.

Shaw University is

doing well. The Divinity School is fine, we ask that you send us some of your youth, to the greatest University on earth. God has blessed us with a fine institution.

The Lord has been good to us. His Mercy endureth from generation to generation. O that men would Praise His name for the wonderful things He has done for the children of men.

I want to thank the people of the convention for electing me as a Vice President the last four years. I have

enjoyed serving the people of the convention east, west, north and south.

I have had many opportunities given to me, and I have always given to each call my best. For the past 25 years I pastored a church and gave her my best.

I look forward to the new year to continue to bring to people across the state the good news about the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

At this time, I will be serving at Orange Grove, Durham, for the month of October and at Metropolitan, Rocky Mount. God has blessed me with a golden opportunity to still serve.

May the blessings of our heavenly Father be upon you always, and may His peace be in your heart, and may His Saving Grace be about you in the days ahead as we continue to be a convention.

This is the Lord's work, and we are led by His Holy Spirit and guided by His truth. I ask your prayers and will be praying, always mentioning you in my prayer.

The Children's Home at Oxford really needs more help from the convention, and a better understanding of how it works. To God be the Glory, for the great things He has done.

Go Bears Go!

Shaw University's Divinity School Holds Candlelight Vigil

Raleigh, NC – (October 10, 2002) – Shaw University's Divinity School in conjunction with The Domestic Abuse and Violence Project hosted a Candlelight Vigil in observance of The National Month of Domestic Abuse and Violence Prevention on October 15th on the Quad in front of the Willie E. Gary Student Union

Center.

Highlights included music, dance, and words of enlightenment, and encouragement as it pertains to domestic abuse and violence in our midst. The vigil culminated with a circle of love, prayer and the lighting of candles.

Shaw University Holds Annual Coronation Ceremony

Raleigh, NC – (October 10, 2002) – Shaw University will host its Annual Coronation Ceremony for Miss Kimberly Nixon, a senior from Portsmouth, Virginia, on the evening of October 18th in the Spaulding Gymnasium. Miss Nixon, who is majoring in Chemistry with a minor in Biology, will reign for the 2002-2003 academic year.

Miss Nixon is a member of numerous organizations including: Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, the University and Pep Bands, Raw Essence Fashion Entourage,

Student Government Association, Honors Program, Student Ambassador, and a Presidential Scholar with a full scholarship in academics.

Her hobbies include spending time with her niece and nephew, Ashanti and Dominique, as well as other family members and friends. Ms. Nixon is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Nixon of Portsmouth, Virginia. She has one sister, Dawn and two brothers, Mark and Craig.

PRESIDENT'S RETIREMENT TICKET INFORMATION

October 25, 2002 - *A Night at the Oscalls in Honor of Dr. Talbert Oscall Shaw*
Time: 6 p.m. reception 7 p.m. performance Attire: After Five
Cost: \$30.00

November 24, 2002 - *A Musical Tribute to Dr. Talbert Oscall Shaw featuring the Shaw University Choir, the Morgan State University Choir, and the Raleigh Symphony Orchestra*

Time: 5 p.m. reception 6 p.m. performance Attire: Black Tie
Cost:
Orchestra and Dress Circle \$80.00
Mezzanine \$65.00
Balcony \$50.00

The following purchasing options are available: Cash, Check, or Credit Card

Tickets can be purchased by contacting:

Ticketmaster: 919-834-4000
Raleigh Memorial Auditorium Box Office: 919-831-6060
Shaw University Cashier's Office: 919-546-8229

Proceeds to benefit the *Talbert O. Shaw Scholarship Endowment Fund*

____ I am unable to attend. However, I am sending a donation of \$ ____.

Please mail donations to: Shaw University, Attn: President's Office, 118 E. South Street, Raleigh, NC 27601

Save the Date!

A Musical Tribute and Retirement Celebration
honoring Dr. Talbert Oscall Shaw
The 12th President of Shaw University
Sunday evening
The Twenty Fourth Day of November
Two Thousand Two
The BTi Center for the Performing Arts
Raleigh Memorial Auditorium

Featuring

The Shaw University Choir
Dr. James Abbingon, Director
The Morgan State University Choir
Dr. Nathan M. Carter, Director
Accompanied by the Raleigh Symphony Orchestra

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Proceeds to Benefit the Talbert O. Shaw Scholarship Endowment Fund

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SHAW UNIVERSITY NEWS

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Homecoming 2002

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME	LOCATION
Saturday, November 16th	Homecoming Parade	11 am	Begins at Wilmington & South Streets
Sunday, November 17th	Homecoming Worship Service - free Speaker: Ms. Nicole Braddock, Campus Outreach Ministries, Radnor, PA	6 pm	Boyd Chapel
Monday, November 18th	Crowning of Miss Homecoming - free Miss Stacy Sowell	7 pm	Spaulding Gymnasium
Tuesday, November 19th	Skating Party - \$4	9 pm	Garner Skate Ranch
Wednesday, November 20th	Jazz Fest - cost Featuring <i>Ebonique</i>	7 pm	Gary Student Center
Thursday, November 21st	Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet - \$25 Student Fashion Show	7 pm 7 pm	Gary Student Center Spaulding Gymnasium
Friday, November 22nd	50th Year Reunion Class Breakfast (invitation only) Graveside Ceremony - free Founder's Day Convocation - free Shaw Players Performance - cost Alumni Awards Banquet - \$50 All Class Reunion Dance - \$10 Step Show	8 am 10:15 am 11 am 3 pm 6 pm 9 pm 8 am	Gary Student Center Memorial Gardens BTi Entertainment Center Estey Hall Auditorium Wake County Shrine Club Sheraton Capital Center Spaulding Gymnasium
Saturday, November 23rd Sponsored by	NAA Business Meeting Alumni Reception - <i>Sponsored by the Law Firm of W.E. Gary & Associates</i> Football Game vs. Webber International Women's & Men's Basketball Games (women vs. Allen University) (men vs. Claflin University)	7:30 am 10 am 1 pm 6 pm & 8 pm	Gary Student Center Sheraton Capital Center (<i>Invitation Required</i>) Southeast Raleigh High School Broughton High School
Sunday, November 24th	Alumni Worship Service - free Speaker: Mrs. Marlene W. Shaw, First Lady of Shaw University The Talbert O Shaw Musical Tribute & Retirement Celebration	10 am 5 p.m. reception & 6 p.m. performance	Thomas J. Boyd Chapel BTi Entertainment Center

The Bessie Boyd-Holman Lecture Series in Ethics and Values Held

Raleigh, NC – (October 10, 2002) – Mrs. La-Verna Fountain, President and Founder of Defiant Hope Ministries in Asheville, NC, was the featured speaker at Shaw University during The Bessie Boyd-Holman Lecture Series in Ethics and Values. The Lecture Series was held October 6th through October 8th.

Mrs. Fountain has served as the Senior Advisor for U.S. Programs and Director of the Southeast Area Office for the international children's agency, Save the Children. Prior to her work with Save the Children, she served as the State Director for former U.S. Senator Harris Wofford, and Deputy Director for the late Pennsylvania Democratic Governor Robert P. Casey. She was the first African-

American and first female Communications Director for the Pennsylvania State Police.

As a former welfare recipient, Mrs. Fountain knows that it's possible for a majority of people to live successful and joyful lives if they are provided with the right support and if they are willing to walk with "Defiant Hope." An ordained minister, she knows that we all have a "ministry" in us, and with Defiant Hope, we can each walk according to our calling.

Mrs. Fountain is married to James and they have two sons, one granddaughter and a host of wonderful children throughout the United States who fondly call her, "Mama Bear" or simply, "Mom." ■

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Take it Back: How to Exercise Your Three-Day Right to Cancel

By Attorney General Roy Cooper

We've all changed our minds or thought better of a decision already made. Imagine if you actually got a chance to do something about it. You may have heard that certain laws give consumers a three-day right to cancel a contract or return a purchase. That's true . . . sometimes. Keep reading to find out what those laws are and how they may apply to purchases you make.

North Carolina Law

Under North Carolina law, you have three days to cancel certain purchases or transactions even after you have signed a contract and paid your money. This gives consumers time to cool off from high-pressure sales tactics, rethink an impulse buy or simply change their minds. In most cases, the seller is required by law to inform you of your right to cancel for a full refund by including a "Notice of Cancellation" form along with the contract.

The clock starts ticking the day you make the purchase or sign a contract. From that date, you have until midnight of the third business day to notify the seller by mail of your wish to cancel. Just make sure you return the cancellation form with the correct address and postage. If you do, you are entitled to get your money back.

When does it apply?

If you put down a deposit with a dealer on a mobile home, sign up for dance or martial arts lessons, take out a dating or discount buying club membership, join a

gym or health club or purchase a year-long campground membership from a salesperson, you have three days to change your mind. If you buy a time share from a developer or salesperson, you get five days to cancel the contract.

The law also applies to certain categories of sales:

Door-to-Door Sales

If you buy something from a door-to-door salesperson, you have three days to cancel any purchase except clothing and apparel, motor vehicles, farm equipment, or certain funeral services and goods. The law applies to all other products, unless you bought similar goods and services from the seller previously, or bought the product during an in-home solicitation after first visiting the seller's place of business.

Off-Premise Sales

You get a phone call or a post card in the mail inviting you to attend a sales presentation at a local hotel or restaurant. The sales pitch is persuasive and the product sounds like a good one, so you order it. Back at home, you rethink your purchase and decide that it wasn't such a wise buy. In most cases, North Carolina law gives you three days to return what you bought or cancel your order.

Exceptions to the rule are: purchases that cost less than \$25; sales or rentals of real property; insurance, securities, and commodities; and motor vehicles sold by licensed dealers or at auction. The law does not apply if the sale is made entirely over the phone or by mail, or if you made the purchase after first visiting the seller's regular place of business.

Home Loans and Home Improvement Sales

Under federal law, consumers also have the right to cancel most home equity loans and home improvement contracts. If the loan is secured by a mortgage on your home, you have three days to cancel the contract in most cases. If you cancel, you will not be liable for any of the closing costs for the loan. The major exception is for loans used to buy or build a home.

Think before you buy

Remember, most contracts are binding as soon as you sign them, including motor vehicle sales and most retail sales. If you buy a convertible on a whim and regret it the next day, the law will not protect you. Some stores may accept returned merchandise but they are not required to do so by law. Before you buy, ask about the policy on refunds and exchanges. If you aren't sure about your purchase, take some time to think it over.

College Opportunity

Submitted by Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor



Carol Smith

Please pass the word to students, guidance counselors, directors of education, churches and others who might be interested:

Historically black college, Knoxville College in east Tennessee has

reduced its tuition from \$5,000 to \$1,400 per student including room, board, and books. All you need is \$600 for the

enrollment deposit and \$800 can be paid in four monthly installments of \$200 each.

The program is funded by corporate sponsors and guarantees a college education where students graduate debt free. Enrollment requirements include a high school diploma and a 2.0/4.0 scale.

If your student has below a 2.0, but you know they are college material, they may be considered provided they get three letters of recommendation for educators who will support their potential.

All interested students must immediately contact the admissions office of Knoxville College by dialing 1-800-743-5669, or applying on line at <http://www.knoxvillecollege.edu>.

The Deep River Missionary Baptist Association Elects Female as 2nd Vice Moderator

The Deep River Missionary Baptist Association made history during their 86th Annual Session (October 4-6, 2002). The Reverend Susan Knight-Brooks was elected 2nd Vice Moderator. Rev. Knight-Brooks is only one of two females in the General Baptist State Convention in an association moderator position.

The Deep River Missionary Baptist Association consists of twenty-seven (27) churches in Chatham, Lee, Guilford, Harnett, Randolph, Cumberland and Moore counties.

Rev. Knight-Brooks is a product of Shaw University School of Divinity. She received her Clinical Pastoral Education certificate as chaplain from The University of North Carolina Memorial Hospital at Chapel Hill in 1998. She has served as the association clerk for a total of 14 years. She is a retired Administrative Secretary of the University of North Carolina. Rev.

Brooks is currently the assistant pastor of The First Missionary Baptist Church of Carthage, NC, where Rev. Lincoln Blanding is senior pastor.

She is the former assistant pastor of The First

Missionary Baptist Church of Pittsboro, NC, where Rev. Larry Siler is pastor.

Rev. Knight-Brooks is married to Rev. Freeman Brooks, senior pastor of the Andrews Chapel AME Zion Church in Bunnlevel, NC. They reside in Sanford, NC. She is the daughter of the late Patience and Lonnie Knight, Sr. of Pittsboro, NC.



Rev. Susan Knight-Brooks



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135 YEARS, Cont'd From Page 4

bers' faith, or the commitment and determined support of local churches.

I believe, with Jesus' words acting as their marching orders (Matt. 28:19) they could not resist the gospel's urgings to go into the entire world. Faith for them appears to have transcended Sunday morning, and rang true everyday, and everywhere. The Convention's historical tireless efforts to support the masses of hurting people around the globe is testament to a love ethic that meets people right where they are. Jesus asked Peter, "Peter loveth thou me?" to which Peter answered, "Lord you know I love you." Jesus then says, "Feed my sheep". Love for God always translates into love for his highest creation, men and women. The church has often struggled with its required role in the society in which it lives and breathes.

Orlando Costas issues this stinging indictment of the church in America in his book *Christ Outside the Gate*: "The crisis of the American church and theology becomes even more intensive when one reflects on two opposite patterns that can be witnessed in churches throughout the United States. The first pattern offers a gospel without demand. The content of this gospel is a conscience-soothing Jesus, with an un-scandalous cross, an other-worldly kingdom, a private, inwardly limited spirit, a pocket God, a spiritualized Bible, and the escapist church. Its goal is a happy, comfortable, and successful life, obtainable through the forgiveness of an abstract sinfulness by faith in an unhistorical Christ. Such a gospel makes possible the "conversion" of men and women without having to make any drastic changes in their lifestyles and value systems. It guarantees, moreover, the preservation of the status quo and the immobility of the People of God. The second pattern lies at the other end of the spectrum: demands without the gospel.

Whether it be the individual legalism characteristic of some Holiness church groups or the collective legalism of the Moral Majority or some radical Christian groups, the accent is the same: Judgment without grace, with similar results — moral exhaustion, discouragement, and frustration. The first pattern robs the gospel of its ethical thrust; the second, of its soteriological depth. The first reduces the church to a social club and theology to an ideology of the status quo; the second enslaves the church and buries the gospel."

As long as we are seriously trying to keep our spiritual lives in order, then of course we must turn outward toward others, especially towards those in need, to share what we have found. We are not to share only one-on-one, or limit our concern to the spiritual lives of others. We need to explore the social implications of our faith; to deal with the physical as well as the spiritual needs of our neighbors, to find ways to join with them in their liberation struggles. We need to listen to them, as well as hope they will listen to us, so that we can put our two different understandings of faith together in a whole that is more complete than either part can be alone.

We live in the midst of a world that is really hurting. Hunger, poverty, sickness, natural disasters, and human disasters like war have many around the globe reeling and reaching out for help. I want to obey God's commission to go. I cannot go myself, I do not have the resources, but through Lott Carey I can go to Africa, Asia, India, and many third world nations. I want to continue to make a difference in the lives of those devastated in this state by hurricane Floyd. My dollars alone are not much, but add mine together with others in my church, other churches in my Association, and other Associations in our Convention, we together can make a dent. You mean I can actually assist in the effort of keeping a University's doors

open and step with technological advances for young men and women of African descent, yes! Please continue to support Shaw University! You mean to tell me that I can help provide a safe haven, a place of learning, nurturing, and mentoring for children without the comfort of their natural families, yes! Please continue to support the Oxford Children's Home! You mean to tell me that every dollar I give to the Convention is accounted for, recorded and published so that I can show my members what they are supporting, yes! Every dollar. We stand in the shadows of past heroes and heroines who unashamedly put their hands to the Kingdom gospel plough, and did not look back. James Weldon Johns is right:

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered. We have come, thread-

ing our paths thro' the blood of the slaughtered. Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last, where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

In closing this is a prayer from W.E.B. Dubois' book: *Prayers for Dark People*

Help us, O Lord, to remember our kindred beyond the sea — all those who bend in bonds, of our own blood and of human kind — the lowly and the wretched, the ignorant and the weak. We are one world, O God, and one great human problem and what we do here goes to solve not our pretty troubles alone, but the difficulties and desires of millions unborn and unknown. Let us then realize our responsibilities and gain strength to bear them worthily — Amen. ■

St. Matthew Baptist Church To Celebrate Opening of New Sanctuary on Nov. 3

St. Matthew Baptist Church, founded more than 130 years ago, will formally open its new 1,200-seat sanctuary on Sunday, Nov. 3.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held at 10 a.m., followed by the regular Sunday morning worship service and communion at 11 a.m. The day concludes with a dedication service beginning at 4 p.m.

Public officials and other area ministers and churches have been invited to join the St. Matthew congregation in celebrating the opening of the new sanctuary, which is located adjacent to the church's current home at 5410 Louisburg Road. The facility will better accommodate a growing congregation, as it will hold more than twice the number of worshippers as the existing church. The new sanctuary also has classrooms and meeting areas. The old church is being converted for offices, Bible study and fellow-

ship.

"Not only are we remembering history with the dedication of our new sanctuary, we are making history," said Rev. Ronald E. Avery, pastor of St. Matthew. "We are creating opportunities not only for our disciples here at St. Matthew but for the entire community in that we are building lives by the fact that we are impregnated by the Holy Spirit."

The theme for the Nov. 3 ribbon cutting and dedication is fittingly taken from the Bible, Nehemiah 4:6: "For The People Had A Mind To Work". This verse reflects the spirit and dedication of current and past members of St. Matthew Baptist Church.

St. Matthew was founded in 1871, and has been at the same location off Louisburg Road throughout its 131-year history. Rev. Avery was named pastor of the church in 1981. ■

North Carolina Laymen President Jarvis Morgan Honored

During the North Carolina State Laymen's League Study Commission annual Quarterly Session on Saturday, September 14th, they paused to give honor, tribute and recognition to their president Jarvis Morgan.

What made this Dedicatory Session so special is that due to tenure, Bro. Morgan is the outgoing Laymen's League president. So it was fitting that he was recognized at this time. Dallas Foster, Chairman of the Study Commission, said this about President Morgan, "He is a great mentor. Responsible for me reluctantly accepting



John Gladden

the chairmanship of the Study Commission. My indebtedness to him is immense. He has helped me immeasurably to more fully discover my own small talent and burgeoning Spirituality. He never failed to show me and to give me his total confidence and endorsement. I am most fortunate to know this model layman leader and to number him among

my most coveted acquaintance and friend." ■

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PASTORS

MOUNT OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Bayboro, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. One business and two personal references (no family references)

Send information to:
Mayor B. Credle, Deacon Chairman
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5972 NC Highway 304
Bayboro, NC 28515

OLIVE BRANCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

vide a resume.
Send information to:
The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chairperson
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
elonzajoybner@hotmail.com

Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Clayton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. Personal references

Send information to:
Oakey Grove Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson
PO Box 2435
Smithfield, NC 27577

MOUNT CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. The church is located in Hertford County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A Resume
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. Two personal references (no family references)

Send information to:
Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Search Committee
ATTN: Deacon Eugene White
815 Swains Mill Road
Harrellsville, NC 27942

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

A Resume
Send information to:
Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Pastor Search Committee
Route 2, Box 128
Norlina, NC 27563

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH Thomasville, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention, interested applicants should provide a resume.
Send information to:
Tanya M. Autry, Chairperson
Pastor Search Committee
First Missionary Baptist Church
103 Church Street
Thomasville, NC 27360

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, Neburgh, NY: currently accepting applications for Senior Pastor with strong Baptist roots. The Committee will provide each candidate with an application packet. Send request to:
Ebenezer Baptist Church
ATTN: Deacon Milton
Buxton/Confidential
PO Box 248
Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

SHADY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, East Spencer, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. at least four references: (2) business (2) personal
3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:
Shady Grove Baptist Church
ATTN: Clarence A. Jones, Chairperson
PO Box 447
East Spencer, NC 28039

EASTERN STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: of Tarboro, North Carolina 27886 seeking a pastor.

- He must be experienced
- Well seasoned
- He must live by the word of God
- Willing to teach Sunday school and bible study class
- Must be between the age of 25-55

Please submit resume to:

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December 6, 2002

4th Annual Housing Banquet
Raleigh Convention Center
500 Fayetteville Street
Raleigh, NC

January 10, 2003

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Banquet
Raleigh Convention Center
500 Fayetteville Street
Raleigh, NC

January 11, 2003

Women's State Convention
One Day Session
Raleigh Convention Center
500 Fayetteville Street
Raleigh, NC

February 8, 2003

One-Day Session Congress of
Christian Education
Winston-Salem, NC

February 22, 2003

One-Day Session Usher's Convention
Winston-Salem, NC

CLASSIFIEDS

Pulpit Committee
Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 1677
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886

THE ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH
seeks a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. St. John has a rich legacy of 75 years of service to the city, county, state and country, which suggests the following list of desired characteristics:

- Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
- Must possess ability to teach, train and coach church officers and auxiliary leaders.
- Must have the skills and be willing to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
- Must have the prerequisite administrative skills, which include the ability to articulate, negotiate and facilitate effectively with a diverse community including educational, business, political, civic and philanthropic communities.
- Evidence of community awareness and involvement
- Must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of the Church.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE
MUST INCLUDE:**

- Minimum of ten years in the ministry as a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
- Terminal masters degree from a recognized accredited seminary or theological institution.

- Must possess strong and proven administrative skills and experience.
 - Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies and procedures, and willingness to follow the by-laws governing the church.
 - Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
 - Demonstrated financial ability and experience with 1 Million+ budgets
- Interested persons meeting all of the above characteristics and minimum qualifications should submit the following information:
- A resume and letter of interest to include a vision statement as it related to their ministry.
 - Copies of license and ordination certification
 - Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training
 - Name, address and telephone number of five (5) personal and professional references with no more than three (3) coming from other ministries familiar with your ministry along with audio/video sample of a sermon.

Completed applications will be accepted for the posting period July 22, 2002 — August 23, 2002. Applications postmarked prior to and after the posting period will not be considered. Completed applications should be sent via certified/return receipt mail addressed to:

Mr. Manning Fogan, II, Chair, Pulpit Committee, St. John Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1038, Getzville, New York 14068-1038.

SECOND CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 114 NELSON AVENUE CHARLOTTE, NC 28216

Second Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a full time pastor to serve as spiritual leader, teacher and counselor for her congregation. Finalist for this position must meet the following qualifications:

- Born-again licensed, ordained minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Knowledge of Baptist doctrine, practices and polity
- BA degree from an accredited institution of higher learning
- Senior Pastor for at least four to five years
- Good administrative and communication skills
- Ability to communicate with all age groups especially the youth
- Leadership experience in developing or administering youth programs and community service programs
- Willingness to affiliate at the national, state and local Baptist conventions and associations.
- Present location within five hours driving time from Charlotte
- Willingness to submit to a police and credit check

Resumes for persons meeting these qualifications should be sent to the Pulpit Search Committee at the address shown above. Resume deadline date is September 19, 2002

UNION GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Youngsville, NC is seeking a church musician.

For specific qualifications and duties, please contact Pastor J.C. Sherrod at 919-242-4024. Please send resume or inquiries to

Attn: Rev. J.C. Sherrod
Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 730
Youngsville, NC 27596

FOSTER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pulpit Search Committee of the Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, is accepting resume for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- He must possess good moral and ethical conduct, living by Timothy 3:1-1, Titus 1:7-9 and abstain from study activities and inclinations as those cited in Romans 1:26-27.
- He must have a minimum of three (3) years experience as pastor with demonstrated ability in counseling and supervising all work for the church.
- He must live in the proximity of the church.
- He must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach God's word.
- He must possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist Doctrine, Church Policies, and Practices, and be willing to abide by them.

PULPIT VACANCY NEW LIGHT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH HALLSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

NEW LIGHT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH IS NOW ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR A PASTOR. OUR WORSHIP SERVICES ARE EACH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Must be a licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.

- Full of Holy Ghost. Led by the Spirit of God in all matters.
- Full of wisdom, knowledge and understand the office of Pastor and performs it according to the scriptures and the needs of the church.
- Must be Association minded.
- Prefer having experience as a Pastor.
- The husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior.
- One that rules his own house, having a good report.
- Knows the doctrine of a Missionary Baptist Church
- Must attend meetings of different auxiliaries in the church to become familiar with the organizations, whenever possible.
- Must visit the sick and shut-in when possible.
- Must attempt to become involved with the various programs that the church participates in outside the home church calendar.

Send resumes and inquiries to:

Deacon Kenneth Bracey
1025 Red Bug Rd.
Hallsboro, North Carolina 28442
910-646-4467

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•He must have the skills required to work with all age groups, with special emphasis on the youth.
 •He must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of the church. — He must be community oriented, and have strong family values.
 •He must have a minimum of a high school diploma preferably a degree or courses in seminary training from an accredited college or university.
 •He must be willing to attend Sunday School, Prayer Meetings, and teach Bible Study.

Please send resume to:
 Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church, 1911 South Church Street
 Post Office Box 6317
 Rocky Mount, NC 2802-6317
 C/O The Pulpit Committee
 Trustee Hiawatha Knight

MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Shelby, NC is currently accepting applications for a pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. The Church is affiliated with the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Association, and the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Interested applicants should provide the following:

Resume (including pastor experiences and educational qualifications)
 A copy of religious credentials (license/ordination)
 At least three personal references (no family)
 Send information to:
 Pastor Search Committee
 Mount Calvary Baptist Church
 P.O. Box 3181
 Shelby, N.C. 28151-3181

HOPPERS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Shelby, N.C., is now accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Potential candidates must be a born again Christian with strong Baptist roots. Hoppers Chapel is a member of the Ebenezer Baptist Association. All appli-

cants must possess the following qualifications.

- Must be ordained and licensed
- Must have at least 1 yr. Pastoral experience
- Must provide credentials of theological training
- Must be an effective teacher and counselor
- Must possess extensive knowledge of Baptist Doctrine
- Provide a mission statement for the church
- Live in close proximity to the church

The applicant must have the ability to plan and implement a growth strategy for both the spiritual and physical growth of the church.

Send all resumes to:
 Hoppers Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
 C/O Pulpit Committee
 415 West Graham St.
 Shelby, N.C. 28150

NEW MOUNT OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Asheville, NC, is currently accepting applications for the position of Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

- Resumé
 - Religious Credentials (Certificate of Ordination, License)
 - Three Personal References
- Please send information by November 30th, 2002, to:
 New Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church
 Pastoral Search Team
 2 Herman Avenue
 Asheville, NC 28801-4357
 828-253-0749

CHURCH STAFF MUSICIANS:

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.

2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Above to play the piano. Keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.

4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.
5. Able to teach, as, well as direct choirs, with humility and love.

MINISTER OF MUSIC

INTRODUCTION:

The position of Minister of Music is a full-time position at First Baptist Church, 101 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. First Baptist Church is a historical black congregation organized as a bi-racial Church at the North Carolina State House (now the Capitol) in 1812. This historical congregation seeks an individual who is willing to grow with its Pastor and his flock. This position requires a music and worship leader who is spiritual and experienced in providing the total awareness of the movement of God's spirit in the assembly of God's people.

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION:

The Minister of Music at First Baptist Church is responsible to the Pastor and is supervised by the Pastor for the development and promotion of the entire music program of First Baptist Church.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The duties and responsibilities of the Minister of Music at First Baptist Church are as follows:

1. Direct the planning, organizing, conducting, and evaluating of a comprehensive music ministry.
2. Supervise the work of paid or volunteer music staff.
3. Cooperate with the church process to enlist and train leaders for the church music ministry, including choir workers, song leaders, and accompanists for the church worship experiences.
4. Lead in planning and promoting a choir program; direct and coordinate the work of choir directors; direct adult, youth, and other choirs as needed.
5. Arrange and provide music for weddings, funerals, special projects, ministries, and other church-related activities upon request.
6. Plan, organize, and promote choir tours, mission trips, camps, festivals, workshops, clinics, and programs for the various choirs.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the music library, materials, supplies, musical instruments, and other equipment.
8. Keep informed on music methods, materials, promotion and administration.
9. Prepare an annual music budget and administer the approved budget.
10. Assist the pastor in planning all services of worship, coordinate the music program with the church calendar and emphases of the church vision.
11. Cooperate with denominational leaders in promoting activities of mutual interest.
12. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be a Christian.
2. Must hold music credentials from an accredited college, university, or conservatory, with at least a Bachelor of Music Degree in Sacred Music, Music Performance, or Music Education (Masters Degree or equivalent preferred).
3. Must have a demonstrated ability in Piano and Pipe Organ proficiency, organizational skills, people skills and ability in choral and instrumental conducting.
4. Must be trained in all styles of Baptist worship, liturgy, and hymnody.
5. The ideal candidate will be an enthusiastic professional who has the proven abilities to revitalize the youth and children's choirs.
6. Must possess creativity and the ability to work collaboratively with the Pastor and staff.
7. Flexibility and technical competence are vital.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The person who is selected for this position must be in generally good health, physically mobile, good eyesight and hearing. A complete physical exam and criminal background check are also requirements.

SALARY:

\$44,106.00 - \$65,000.00 per year depending upon qualifications and/or experience.

CLOSING DATE:

Resumes and/or applications, and references must be postmarked by October 15, 2002.

CONTACT:

Mail resumes or applications and references to:

First Baptist Church
 ATTN: Mr. Michael A. Shaw
 P.O. Box 27771
 Raleigh, NC 27611
 (919) 832-1649
 Email: churchfb@bellsouth.net

MOUNT PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH

of Raleigh, NC is currently accepting applications for a pastor.

The church is located in Wake County. All interested applicants should provide the following:

- A copy of their resume
- A copy of religious credentials
- Application deadline is December 31, 2002

Send information to:
 Mount Pleasant Baptist Church
 Pastoral Search Committee
 Attn. Deacon Robert E. Wall
 10720 Falls of The Neuse Road
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27614

CLASSIFIEDS

6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services.
7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).
8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship.

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED:

Wake Forest congregation seeks musician. 1) The duties include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship, 2.) Playing during Sunday morning worship service, 3). Rehearsing with various choirs one night per week, 4.) And accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to: Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church 12700 Creedmoor Road Highway 50 Wake Forest, NC 27587 (919) 870-8874

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY: THE SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH seeks a Minister of Music to provide musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the appropriate qualifications. **(SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS AT BEGINNING OF CHURCH MUSICIAN SECTION):**

For additional information please send inquiry or resume to: SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 2589 Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

MUSICIAN NEEDED: Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday. Prepare Choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship. Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times. Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church functions. Direct congregation in congregational hymns. Must be able to play by

ear as well as read music To apply call: (704) 532-6813 or E-mail to GalileeNC@aol.com GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PO. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

CHURCH MUSICIAN VACANCY: FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Selma, NC, seeks musician for youth choir. Must be a Christian with good character.

Requirements:

- Play the organ and piano
- Able to play sacred and gospel music
- Read music and have the ability to play by ear

Send resume to: Reverend S. Manfred Isom, Pastor 415 Star Ruby Drive Knightdale, NC 27545

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: THE PENN AVENUE MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian, who is responsible, has good character and a good reputation.

Requirements:

- *Plays the organ and piano
- *Able to work with a diverse group of singers
- *Experienced in all sacred music
- *Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear

Send resumes or responses to: Mount Olive Baptist Church PO Box 214 Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849 Attention: William W. Peele, Jr.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED: THE PENN AVENUE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Oxford, NC, is currently seeking a Minister of Music. **QUALIFICATIONS: (SEE SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS LISTED IN BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION)**

*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary. Salary: Negotiable Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin

at 10 a.m. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED:

Knowledge of music and the ability to play by ear is appreciated. Presently, morning worship service is held every fourth (4th) Sunday, but we are considering an additional Sunday for services. Must be able to play for youth choir and adult choir. Church is located in Warren County, North Carolina. For further information, please call: (252) 257-0221

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

is seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music. Loyal and (Committed to Gods program.) Must possess people skills, be trained as a musician, Conductor, and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to:

Attention:

Trustees Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church 913 N. Highland Street Gastonia, NC 25052

CHURCH MUSICIAN: THE CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Gibson, N.C. is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician. Qualifications: **(PLEASE SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION)** Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at this address.

CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 14600 Railroad St. Gibson, NC 28343

CHURCH MUSICIAN: THE FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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Must have strong missionary baptist roots and be concerned with all areas of the church, having good leadership abilities and skills, both organizational and spiritual.

Must also have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrine, church policies and procedures and a willingness to follow the by-laws governing the church.

Good administrative and communication skills with the ability to teach, train church officers and auxiliary leaders. Able to communicate with all aged groups, especially the young.

Must have at least (3) three to (4) four years of pastoral experience.

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This person will be responsible for directing, managing, and developing all functions and aspects associated with planning and implementing a comprehensive Church Music Ministry.

A person in this position must possess formal training and expertise in the area of music, has excellent organizational skills, and the ability to work cooperatively with a diverse group of people.

EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Science Degree in Music with concentration in choral, church, or music education, a minimum of two years of work experience as Minister of Music or Minister of Music Assistant in a similar Church environment.

An Instrument skill proficiency test is required on piano and organ. Must possess the ability to organize and prioritize tasks, events, and activities; ability to

work under pressure of deadlines; make decisions; and establish effective working relationships with the Pastor, choir members, church members, supervisor, and church community.

•Resumes will be accepted until August 31, 2002. Start date for this position will be December 31, 2002.

•If the Holy Spirit excites you about this opportunity to serve God, and you meet the qualifications and expectations described above, we would love to hear from you. Please e-mail your resume to or mail it to:

The Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church
1879 Glenwood Avenue, S.E.
Atlanta, GA 30313

Attn: Personnel Committee

JEFFRIES CROSS BAPTIST CHURCH

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09. Are You Full of the Stuff
10. Let's Get on Board
11. God Picked Me To Be On His Side
12. Grace on the Race
13. Grow Up or Blow Up
14. Hang In There
15. He Lifted Me Up Out of the Miry Clay
16. Look Where the Lord Has Brought Me From
17. If My People
18. We Can Do It For a New Day Has Come
19. I Know What Prayer Can Do
20. Put Some Clothes On Child
21. A Right Thing in a Wrong Time
22. The Man Who Had Everything But the Right Thing
23. Soap For the Soul
24. Stay On the Lord's Side
25. If You Take One Step He'll Take Two
26. Stepping In Your Own Mess
27. I Can't Lose With the Stuff I Use
28. You Can't Touch This
29. Warm in a Cold Situation
30. That's the Way He Died But That's Not the End of the Story
31. What You See Is What You Get
32. What's Faith Got To Do With It
33. You Can't Make It Without God
34. I Just Want To Say... "Thank You Lord"
35. A Heart Like Thine
36. Just a Closer Walk With Thee
37. Give Me a Clean Heart So I Can Serve You

38. What Ever the Problem God Has the Answer
39. Peace — In the Midst of My Storm
40. I Am On the Right Road, Now!
41. A Good Man In a Bad Situation
42. Good Medicine For a Bad Ailment
43. Stand Up! and Testify
44. Bad Boys! What You're Going To Do When He Comes For You
45. Angels Just Keep Watching Over Me
46. Go Ahead! Make My Day
47. A Trip to the Cross
48. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! He Is Somebody's Preacher
49. On the Day of Pentecost
50. Jesus Is All That!
51. Muddy Putty in the Potter's Hands
52. When Stress Controls You Jesus Consoles You
53. Black Men and Women, Young and Old, Changing a Generation
54. I Am Black, But I Am Somebody
55. Staying Afloat in a Sinking Boat
56. He That Has a Friend Must Show Himself Friendly
57. Victory Is Mine/Starting All Over
58. Occupy Till I Come
59. A Man on a Mission/The Borrowed Ax
60. Busy in God's Business
61. Just Like Mama
62. He's Alive and I Am Glad About It
63. What the World Needs Now Is Love Sweet Love
64. I Moved from My Old House and My Old Friends
65. I Just Want To Know Why
66. What Do You Do When Life Is Not Fair
67. Why Do Bad Things Happen To Good People
68. What Do You Do When Your Brook Runs Dry
69. Diagnosis From Dr. Jesus, Go and See the Dr.
70. Who Is He
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CORRECTION

The Rev. Dr. Linda W. Bryan, Assistant Dean of Shaw University Divinity School, preached the 45th Anniversary of Dr. Elbert Lee, Pastor of the North End Baptist Church in Rocky Mount.

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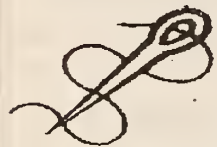
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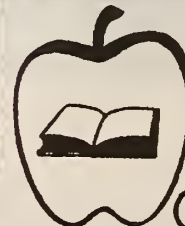
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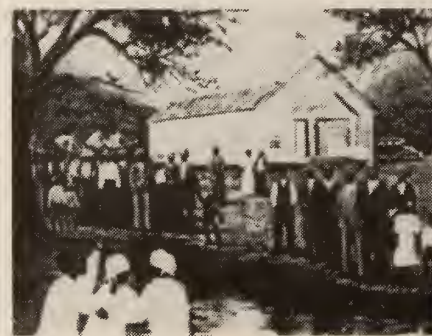


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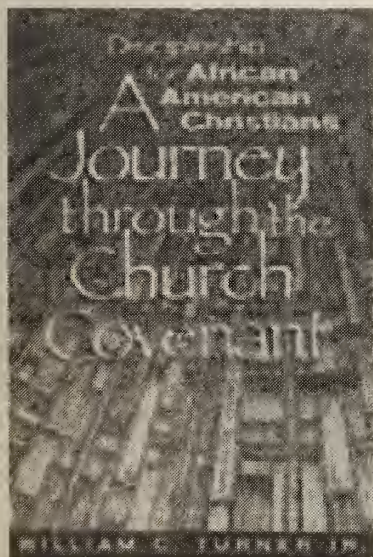
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Volume 125, No. 12

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.
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December 2002

The Honorable Alphonso Jackson To Highlight 2003 Martin Luther King, Jr. Banquet

By Archie D. Logan, Jr.,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

We are pleased and excited to announce that the Honorable Alphonso Jackson, Deputy Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development will deliver

the annual
GBSC Martin
Luther King Jr.
Banquet
Address,
Friday,
January 10,
2003, at the
Raleigh, North
Carolina Civic
Center at 7:00
PM. Dr.

Jackson has a
wide range of
experience in
housing, finance, and management. He
is a noted authority in public housing
and community development. The
Banquet is always held the evening pre-
ceding the Woman's State Convention
One-Day Session.

Deputy Secretary Jackson was nominated by President George W. Bush on March 9, 2001, unanimously confirmed by the Senate on June 3, 2001, and took the oath of office on June 6, 2001. He is the Chief Operating Officer of HUD. Secretary Jackson oversees the day-to-day operations of the \$32 billion agency with a core mission of providing affordable housing and promoting community and economic development.

Secretary Jackson was most recently the President of American Electric Power - TEXAS, a \$13 billion utility company located in Austin, Texas. From January 1989 until July 1996, Secretary Jackson

was President and CEO of The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas, Texas, a \$100 million operation. Previous to The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas, Secretary Jackson was Director of the Department of Public and Assisted Housing in Washington, D.C., for the \$137 million operation. Also, he served as Chairperson for the District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency Board.

Secretary Jackson holds a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in education administration from Truman State University and a law degree from Washington University School of Law. In 1977, Jackson became the Director of Public Safety for the City of St. Louis. Secretary Jackson also served as executive director for the St. Louis Housing Authority; a director of consultant services for the certified public accounting firm of Laventhol and Horwath-St. Louis; and special assistant to the chancellor and assistant professor at the University of Missouri.

He previously served on the following Boards: JP Morgan Chase & Co. - Texas; Zale-Lipshy University Hospital; The Nature Conservancy of Texas; Voyager Expanded Learning, Inc.; The Hockaday School; Truman State University; Dallas Citizens Council; Dallas Theater Center; Episcopal School of Dallas; Boy Scouts of America, Dallas Metropolitan and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Secretary Jackson was presented the AFLAC - 2001 Lifetime Achievement Award, the National Boys & Girls Clubs of America - 1997 Chairman's Award and the Aspen Institute - 1995 Aspen Fellow.

Secretary Jackson has received
Presidential and other Appointments:

The National Commission on
America's Urban Families (92-93);
Member of the Regional Selection
Panel for the White House Fellowship
Programs (90-92) and a Member of
The National Commission on Severely
Distressed Public Housing (90-92). In



Alphonso Jackson

addition,
Secretary
Jackson was a
member of the
National
Welfare
Simplification
and
Coordination
Advisory
Committee
(92-93) and
served as
Chairman of
the General
Services Commission of the State of
Texas (95-98).

Each January we reflect on the life and times of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. The "DREAM" of Dr. King will live in the 21st Century just as it did in the 20th Century. Memories of him touch all of us in a special way each January when we celebrate his birth. His birthday is a national holiday and his life a source of spiritual inspiration to us all. This banquet is our tribute to a person that made the world a better place.

Over forty (40) years ago, Martin Luther King, Jr., set before us a DREAM, a hope for a beloved community. A world where we all share in the promises of Jesus Christ! He was one of the world's best-known advocates of non-violent social change strategies. Dr. King was born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15, 1929; Dr. King's roots were in the

African-American Missionary Baptist Church. He was a preacher/pastor, and came from a family of Baptist ministers. In a real sense he was one of "us and a part of us". Many members of the GBSC knew and marched with Dr. King during the Civil Rights era. We still feel his spirit among us.

On December 5, 1955, five days after Montgomery civil rights activist Rosa Parks refused to obey the city's rules mandating segregation on buses, black residents launched a bus boycott and elected Martin Luther King, Jr. as president of the newly formed Montgomery Improvement Association. As the boycott continued during 1956, King gained national prominence as a result of his exceptional oratorical skills and personal courage. His house was bombed and he was convicted along with other boycott leaders on charges of conspiring to interfere with the bus company's operations. Despite these attempts to suppress the movement, Montgomery buses were desegregated in December 1956, after the United States Supreme Court declared Alabama's segregation laws unconstitutional. This was a major turning point in the social history of America.

In 1957, seeking to build upon the success of the Montgomery boycott movement, King and other southern black ministers founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the group his son, Martin, III, presently is leading into the next Century. As SCLC's president in 1957, Dr. King emphasized the goal of black voting rights and equality under the law. The movement grew and in 1962 Dr. King and other Civil Rights leaders sent out a worldwide call for freedom-loving people to join in a

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1867-2002 • 1867-2002

OUR 135TH YEAR

BANQUET, Cont'd From Page 1

"March on Washington, DC for Jobs and Freedom" on August 28, 1963. The march attracted more than 250,000 protesters to the nation's Capitol. It was at this historic march that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" oration. King's speech was delivered at a time when racial strife abounded; yet, he believed that we could share in the American Dream and take our seat at the "table of justice".

King ended the speech: "I say to you today, my friends, that even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed - we hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal. I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state swel-

tering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice. I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

"I have a dream today!

"I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification; one day right down in Alabama little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

"I have a dream today!

"I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, and every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain and the crooked places will be made straight and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together.

"This is our hope. This is the faith that I will go back to the South with. With this faith we will be able to hew out

of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day. This will be the day, this will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning 'My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the Pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring!' And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true.

"And so let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire.

"Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York.

"Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania.

"Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado.

"Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California.

"But not only that.

"Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia.

"Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee.

"Let freedom ring from every hill and mole-hill of Mississippi, from every mountainside, let freedom ring! And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every tenement and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, 'Free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last'."

Next month Secretary Jackson will join us as we revisit the DREAM of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. President Charles Bullock, his leadership team and I call on members of the GBSC to pray for our work in 2003. Join us in Raleigh on January 10-11, 2003 as we promote a "New Convention for a New Century". ■

The Reverend Charles T. Bullock, D.Min. 33rd President of the General Baptist State Convention

By Archie D. Logan, Jr.
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Charles T. Bullock, husband, father, teacher, counselor, community leader, world traveler, pastor and God's humble servant, is a native of Oxford, North Carolina. Dr. Bullock was elected the 33rd President of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc., Wednesday, October 30, 2002, in Fayetteville, North Carolina during the 135th Annual session. His early preparation for his various roles in life enabled him to grow intellectually, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually in those areas that truly count in leading to greatness. The Bullock family has a distinguished and long tradition of GBSC involvement.

He graduated from Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina with the Bachelor of arts degree; Shaw Divinity School, Raleigh, North Carolina with both the Bachelor of Divinity and the Master of Divinity degrees; and Howard University, Washington, D. C., with the Doctor of Ministry degree.

Dr. Bullock was a teacher and a counselor in North Warren High School, Wise, North Carolina; John Graham High School, Warrenton, North Carolina; and Northwest High School, Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. At the present time he serves on the Shaw University Divinity School faculty and in the National Baptist Congress of Christian, National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. as an instructor.

As a preacher pastor President Bullock

has distinguished himself as a messenger of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and pastor of His flocks by leading the following North Carolina congregations: Nashville Baptist Church, Laurinburg; Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Creedmoor; Snow Hill Baptist Church, Warrenton; First Baptist Church, Weldon; Saint James Baptist Church, Rocky Mount and Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh (present position held since March 1991).

In addition to teaching and pastoring, Dr. Bullock has willingly shared his versatile skills in unending ministerial and community involvements: Member, Rocky Mount Human Relations Committee; Executive Board, General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (current); President, National Shaw University Divinity School Alumni Association; Member, Trustee

Board, Shaw University Divinity School; Member of Board of Education, Rocky Mount City Schools; Executive Secretary, National Shaw University Divinity School Alumni Association (current); Vice President at Large and First Vice President, General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.; Chairman, North Carolina Inmate Grievance Resolution Board (current and appointed by the Governor); Chairman, General Board and Executive Committee (current), General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.; Vice President, Raleigh Interdenominational Ministerial Affiance (current); Member, Advisory Committee, Center for Research on Chronic Illness, UNC at Chapel Hill; Wake Education Partnership, Wake County Schools (current); and President

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From the Desk of the President

By Dr. Charles T. Bullock

"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts." (Psalms 145:3-4)



Dr. Charles Bullock

To the Martin Street Baptist Church and the entire General Baptist Family, I take this time to express my sincere thanks to you for your prayers, your financial support, your words of encouragement and the confidence you have placed in me as your newly elected president. To all of the Associations that I have had an opportunity to visit, I am most grateful for your reception and the opportunity afforded me to share with you the work of our convention and some ideas that I think should happen as we move forward in this the twenty-first century. To the Associations that I was not privileged to visit because of time constraints, I look forward to sharing with you in the future and I thank all of you for your support.

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I express my sincere thanks to Dr. John Fuller, our immediate past president, for his exemplary leadership. I will seek his counsel as we move forward in this administration as well as the counsel of other past presidents. I commend Vice Presidents Grant, Parker, Avery, Lynch and Banks, the elected team who will share in the leadership of this administration. With your prayers and your support, we shall endeavor, by the Grace of God, to take this convention to higher spiritual and financial heights.

May I share with you excerpts from one of my previous articles. A student may be ever so knowledgeable of the subject matter, but it is passing the examination that determines one's certification. A pilot may be efficient in routine flights, but it is in landing the plane safely when an engine is on fire and the landing gear is locked in place that calls for calmness under stress. A bus driver may have driven for many tours, but it is the tour that he takes as he drives through a raging storm that tests his ability to be in command in a difficult situation. We are living in times of economic decline and terrorist attacks. Nevertheless, in these challenging and wonderful times, we are called to live beyond ourselves, adjust to the change and acknowledge that God is still in control.

We are called to understand the nature

of the disorder of our times and treat the illness rather than the symptoms. We are asked to champion the cause of the weak, oppressed and underprivileged. We are called to put human values above economic values and acknowledge with thanksgiving, the love of God for all humanity. The discharging of our responsibility demands courage and sacrifice and a willingness to be used by God and seek His divine guidance. He is with us, judging us, forgiving us, healing us, reconciling us, and calling us to the task of making a better world through dedication and service.

We are called "To Serve The Present

Age." Our mission ministry provides for spiritual, emotional, physical, economic and educational needs in carrying out God's Great Commission. May each of us commit personally to the words of the hymnologist, "A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify, who gave His Son my soul to save, and fit it for the sky. To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill, O may it all my powers engage to do my Master's will."

WE WISH FOR EACH OF YOU A WONDERFUL, BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON!



The Bullock Family
Cedric, Dr. Shirley, Dr. Charles, Melanie, Eric, and Charles

BULLOCK, Cont'd From Page 2

of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

President Bullock has traveled extensively throughout the United States and abroad, having visited South Africa where he preached and lectured at the Baptist Convention there and shared in their revival. Moreover, he taught, lectured, and preached at the Baptist Congress of Christian Education of Frankfurt, Germany. He experienced the wonder of Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Switzerland, Israel, Canada, and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Dr. Bullock's commitment to the ministry and his dedicated involvements in community service have not gone unnoticed. He was formally recognized and awarded the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree by the Shaw Divinity School in 1979. More recent recognitions include the following: "Religious Service Award", Garner Road Family YMCA, Raleigh, North Carolina; "Service to Mankind Award", Sertoma Club; "Clergy of the Year", the Tota PH Lambda Sorority, Inc.; and he is a proud "Life Member" of the NAACP.

Dr. Bullock is married to Dr. Shirley W. Bullock, a former President of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign

Missionary Convention. The Bullocks are proud parents of four children, all college graduates: Eric, Charles, Cedric (Doris), and Melanie. He and his wife reside in Raleigh.

President Bullock is calling on all General Baptists to join him in the *Splendid Enterprise* of the GBSC in the *new millennium*. Each day we have a new opportunity of Kingdom Building and evangelistic witness. Ephesians 4:1-8 says, "I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with long-suffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, He says:

"When he ascended on high,
He led captivity captive,
And gave gifts to men." (NKJV)

Thank you so much for the privilege to serve you in this present age as your President and servant leader.

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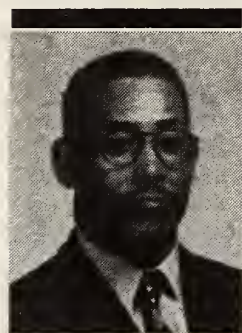
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The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., 135th Annual Session Held in Fayetteville

By Reverend Dennis Leach, BS. M. Div.

May the grace of God, and the peace of this glorious season be with all of you my General Baptist State Convention brothers and sisters. The 135th Annual



Rev. Dennis Leach

Session of the General Baptist State Convention held in Fayetteville, North Carolina, was a rousing success. The Convention got underway on Sunday, October 27th with a spirit filled enthusiastic Pre-Convention

Musical held at the host church, Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, where Dr. Carl E. Brinkley, Jr., is the Pastor. The Mount Olive Baptist Church praise team, and the united Union Association choir under the direction of Mrs. Becky White Butler, and Mrs. Octavia Ivory rendered the music. Their spirit filled renditions lifted the hearts and spirits of those in attendance, while singing traditional hymns, contemporary and gospel tunes.

It was evident from the outset that a great deal of planning went into the preparation phase for this 135th Annual Session, between the Convention staff, the host church, and the election committee, because for the most part everything went off without a hitch. I want to thank

Dr. Logan for his directions and support, the office staff, Ms. Carol Smith, Ms. Mattie Murphy, Mrs. Portia Brandon, Ms. Darcell Nelson, Ms. Renee Stimac, Rev. Dennis Brown, Dr. Robert Horne, and Rev. Eric Harris for providing professional support and service to the delegates and Conventioneers alike. I also want to thank the election committee, Rev. Reginald Wells, Rev. F. O. Bass, and Rev. Charles Walton for their tireless efforts to ensure an accurate and smooth process.

As a Convention family, we owe a great deal of gratitude to the host church, Mount Olive and their esteemed pastor, the Rev. Dr. Carl E. Brinkley, Jr. for the tremendous and gracious job they did hosting this Session. The host church and pastor pulled out all the stops and spared no kindness in greeting, meeting, and serving Conventioneers, and delegates.

Dr. Fuller, the immediate past President, Dr. Logan, the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, and Dr. Freddie Barnes, the Program Committee Chairman, worked in tandem and were able to provide delegates and Conventioneers with an awesome Annual Session that highlighted some great preaching, lecturing, singing, and memorable moments. Dr. Fuller was honored during the Presidential Night for his groundbreaking ministry efforts as our President. The guest speaker during that service was Dr. William J. Shaw, President of the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc.

Dr. Sidney Locks brought to the

Convention elected public officials, and those running for public office during the Political Forum period to address delegates. Additionally, the honorable William Jefferson Clinton, the forty-second President of the United States called and addressed Conventioneers about the importance of the Mid-Term elections. Former President Clinton also said he was looking forward to sharing with this Convention during this year's Annual Housing Banquet scheduled for December 6, 2002 in Raleigh.

On behalf of this great Convention, I want to congratulate the newly elected officers of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. in the persons of:

Dr. Charles T. Bullock, **President**
Dr. John H. Grant, **Vice President At-Large**
Rev. Howard Parker, **First Vice President**
Rev. Nilous Avery II, **Second Vice President**
Dr. Leonzo Lynch, **Third Vice President**
Rev. Ricky Banks, **Fourth Vice President**
Dr. Gloria Gerald, **Recording Secretary**
Dr. Patricia Robinson, **Assistant Recording Secretary**
Dr. A. T. Griffey, **Statistician**
Dr. Jasper Reed, **Historian**
Dr. J. Ray Butler, **Parliamentarian**

I want to also thank those persons who ran for GBSC offices and who were not elected for your willingness to offer both your time and talents to this great Convention. This 135th Annual Session

could not have been the success that it was without all of those persons who were a part of the program. Whether you were on the program, or served in support of the program, your contributions counted, and the Convention thanks you.

Finally on behalf of Dr. Logan, the officers, and members of this Convention, I want to thank the outgoing administration for your labor of love and ministry to this Missionary Baptist community. You have added to a firm foundation a level of service that will not be soon forgotten by your General Baptist State Convention brothers and sisters. As you return to your various ministry fields and focus on your local ministries, we are confident that as God blessed us through your efforts in serving this Convention, He will bless each of you, and make fruitful your kingdom building endeavors in the places that you continue to serve. I want to thank those who served as our photography team for the outstanding photographs of this 135th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. As a team, you collaborated and did superb work that gives a photographic historical record of our having gathered in this place. It is my hope, that as you celebrate this joyous Jesus season and look forward to the coming new year, the grace of God sufficient for our journey and the peace of God that makes it all worthwhile, overshadow you. ■

Holiday Greetings – Thank You!

By Dr. Archie D. Logan, Jr.
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

May the PEACE of our SAVIOR greet you during this Holy Holiday Season! First let me thank each of you for your support of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. We end this year and begin next with new GBSC officers and leaders – the first elected and selected in this millennium. We are truly a chosen generation: We lean on and depend on our Lord and Savior.

At this time of year, as Christians, we celebrate the SEASONS: Advent, Christmastide and New Year. This is an anointed special time for people of faith! In Advent we prepare to celebrate Christmas and His divine birth. Jesus Christ is the reason we celebrate Christmas. The New Year signifies another landmark we have crossed: A road we were never promised to travel; a mystery revealed one day at a time; a hope fulfilled!

Prayer and Meditation Highlight of the Advent Season.

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field:

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass.

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand forever.

O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings,

lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Isaiah 40:3-9 (KJV)

I want to encourage us to set aside special time for spiritual healing and cleansing. It is important that we do self-introspection and reflection. Jesus took time to go to the mountain for spiritual strength. "And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. Matthew 14:23 (KJV). Advent gives us a time to grow stronger in our faith. Time alone with Jesus Christ is needed in our lives. HOLIDAY TIME IS HOLY TIME FOR CHRISTIANS.

At Christmas we share the gift of the Christ child. We join with family and friends in fellowship. We worship, we seek to evangelize and we glorify God's love for us through his son Jesus. The scriptures, the songs and the prayers of the Christmas season give us reasons to reaffirm our hopes of a blessed peace in our Lord. Matthew 2:1 "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the

days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, 2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him" (KJV). Let Christmas 2002 be more than dinners, decorations, gifts and parties. Let the light of Jesus shine in our lives. Be more forgiving, loving and inclusive. Let us fight SIN and not each other. Let love abound in the land.

The New Year begins with the first month in the Hebrew year and January in our calendar year. The law of Moses directed that the New Year holiday should be observed by "blowing the trumpets" Numbers 29:1. Thus this festival is also known as the Feast of Trumpets. Let us lift up Jesus Christ in joyful praise this New Year! This "Watch-night", December 31, 2002, give God praise, Jesus the victory and the Holy Spirit honor. Remember each other in prayer. Let Go and Let God order our footsteps. Let our first New Year's Resolutions be to witness to some lost soul, to evangelize the un-churched, to reach those in need. Be a blessing! ■

From the Desk of the New Second Vice-President

By Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II - M. Div.

"To the General Baptist family, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called



Rev. Nilous Avery, II

to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ... Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank God for you because of (God's) grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in (Christ) you have

been enriched in every way. God, who has called you into fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful and will keep you strong to the end... " (Romans 1:2-5, 8-9, NIV)

Thanks be to God for the opportunity to serve with *A Passion for God & Compassion for People*. Thank you, General Baptists, for your overwhelming vote of confidence at the 135th Annual Session of our storied convention. I humbly and gratefully accept God's calling and your trust in our desire to *Glorify God & Edify Others*. We must be committed like never before to address needs of concern that impact and confront our communities, churches, associations, and convention.

I am committed to working with our new President Dr. Charles Bullock; Vice-

Presidents Grant, Parker, Lynch, Banks; and other newly elected officers of the Convention, Executive Secretaries Logan and Brodie; auxiliary heads and all who work tirelessly as kingdom builders for God in Christ Jesus. The mantle of ministry and leadership is a charge to keep that involves a deep and sincere diligence. We must not take it lightly. The very lives and souls of humanity hang in the balance. We are commanded to be foot soldiers for the Master's military maneuvers in this spiritual warfare that pits Good against evil.

Words are not adequate to express the humility and gratitude that I have for such a time as this. Previous laborers who have served as Second Vice-President, and most recently Dr. Howard Parker, have set a high standard of excellence. By the power, presence, and provision of God's abundant grace, I pledge to uphold

that standard under the blood-stained banner of the resurrected Christ.

With the guidance of our anointed and appointed leaders, our challenge is to specifically "assist the President in the operation of the Convention" and "chair the Committee for the Department of Foreign Mission" (Article V, Section 6.4 of the Constitution of the GBSC of N.C., Inc.). The immediate general goals of this ministry will be:

- constant and consistent efforts to improve in ministry for God;
- seeking to develop a deep sensitivity to the needs of humanity;
- increase growth in the ability to articulate the Gospel in ways that are relevant, challenging, meaningful, and transcendent;
- encourage and lead all individuals,

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News From Central Children's Home

By Reverend Ricky L. Banks

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when



Rev. Ricky Banks

thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Deuteronomy 6:7

I want to first and foremost thank God for my recent appointment as Fourth Vice-President of the General Baptist State

Convention of North Carolina, Inc. I want to express my gratitude for all the prayers and support I received from the saints throughout North Carolina. I pledge to do all I can within my God given ability to carry on the work of the convention in a way that will be pleasing and acceptable to God. Again I say thank you.

My charge will be working with the Central Children's Home in Oxford, North Carolina.

An anonymous writer wrote:

If a child lives with criticism, he learns to condemn.

If he lives with hostility, he learns to fight.

If he lives with fear, he learns to be apprehensive.

If he lives with pity, he learns to feel sorry for himself.

If he lives with tolerance, he learns to be patient.

If he lives with jealousy, he learns to feel guilty.

If he lives with ridicule, he learns to

be shy.

If he lives with shame, he learns to be ashamed of himself.

If he lives with encouragement, he learns to be confident.

If he lives with praise, he learns to be appreciative.

If he lives with acceptance, he learns to love.

If he lives with approval, he learns to like himself.

If he lives with recognition, he learns to have a goal.

If he lives with fairness, he learns to value justice.

If he lives with honesty, he learns to value truth.

If he lives with security, he learns to have faith in himself and others.

The Central Children's Home is asking for your support in the transitional classroom program. The program allows teachers and aides to come on campus and teach the children who cannot function in a regular classroom. We are fully aware that the school influences the child's developing personality in area traits and in formation of the self-concept. The school sees to it that the child accepts the cultural values as a price for social acceptance.

Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director, is working very hard to receive National Accreditation by the National Association Home for Children. If we can help you in your churches, associations, or any auxiliary, please feel free to call us and we will be honored and happy to come and share more on this worthwhile ministry. We can be reached at (252) 335-9777 or (252) 267-3428. So until you hear from us again, "Happy Holidays" and remember we need your prayers and support.

Expressions of Gratitude for Support

By Dr. J. H. Grant

Vice President At Large

I wish to thank the General Baptist State Convention family for your vote of confidence in electing me to the position of Vice President At Large of our great



Dr. J. H. Grant

and historic Convention. "For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him..." 2 Chron. 16:9 (NIV). 135 years of existence is compelling and

indisputable evidence that the Lord has strengthened, and continues to strengthen, this Convention because of hearts fully committed to Him.

My heart is fully committed to God

and to serving Him through this Convention. As such, I pledge my complete cooperation with and full support of our newly elected president, Dr. Charles Bullock. As constitutionally mandated, and at his direction, I will fully assist our President in carrying out the work of this Convention, preside over the Convention in his absence or at his request, and preside over the General Board. My commitment is to serve with honor and integrity and to refrain from anything that would reflect unfavorably upon either this great office or this Convention.

Again, please accept my sincere gratitude both for your vote and for the opportunity to serve as your Vice President At Large. I am also available to assist our pastors and churches in other ways at your request. You may contact me at: Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 47 Eagle Street, Asheville, NC 28801; phone (828) 252-0515 (office) or (828) 251-9477 (home); fax (828) 254-7150; e-mail jobeko@bellsouth.net.

From the Desk of the Third Vice-President

By Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch



Dr. Leonzo Lynch

Thank you, thank you, thank you. A special thanks to the members of this great General Baptist State Convention of NC for your support and confidence entrusted to me to serve you as the Third Vice President of the

Convention. It is my sincere prayer and desire to serve this great convention to the glory of God. Your prayers and support are needed as we attempt to Hold High the Blood Stained Banner of Jesus our Christ. Again, thank you.

As we enter this Christmas season, let us remember that Jesus is the reason for the season. God bless you.

Christmas: God's Love In Flesh

By Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie

The calendar season of Christmas is now upon us, and what meaning has it for us? We express it in many a way. When asked what is the meaning of Christmas,



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

one person gave the following answer. "I know and understand that Christ is the reason for Christmas. It is ultimately a Celebration of the Birth of Christ. For me it is also a time when I gather with my family to reflect on

what great things God has done for my family. Getting ready for Christmas brings much anticipation for me. I enjoy the family gathering and watching my son open his presents. Eating dinner on Christmas Day with all loved ones is an indescribable feeling. It's a time when everyone can just relax and enjoy the peacefulness of the season. Christmas should not be a time of stressfulness; it is a time to rejoice and to remember for what December 25th and every day are really intended."

Yet another person expressed: "To me Christmas is a beautiful recipe. Christmas is Christ, and Christ within each of us = LOVE. Christmas reminds us that because of His birth we have a second chance at life in abundance. Knowing and believing this help each of

us to be able to share and give from this truth in everything we say, do, or touch with love. Jesus is love and the Father proved it by his birth and his death so we would know how strong and powerful the word LOVE really is."

Indeed is Christmas God's sharing His love in flesh with the families of the world. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life," John 3:16. What a present to the family of Joseph and Mary! What responsibility had been shared with them, to provide a home for the Holy Child of Virgin Birth! What love nourished their home, for they had accepted God's invitation to receive Jesus, their Savior and Lord! He "grew and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him" (Luke 2:40).

However, as time passed and He began to fulfill the mission for which He was sent, there were other families/persons within the world who did not receive Him as Savior and Lord, though He was the One Who had created them. "But as many received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: . . . He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God", John 1:12, 3:18.

Christmas continues to remind us of God's GREATEST GIFT OF LOVE, JESUS, to the world which consists of families and/or individuals. Have we as

families and/or individuals received this gift as our Savior and Lord so that we have received His great light, love, wisdom, joy, peace, and hope and His inheritance? For those who receive Him as Savior and Lord are joint-heirs with Him. Have we shared the good news of this Jesus, the Christ, our Savior and Lord,



Dr. Julius McDonald

with other families and/or individuals? What Gift, Jesus, have we to share with the world at this season of the year that we help to keep Christ in Christmas! How shall we demonstrate his embodied message of Love?

"SHARE HIS LOVE"

The love of God is broad-er than earth's vast ex-panse; 'Tis deep-er and wid-er than the sea.

Love reach-es out to all to bring a-bundant life, For God so loved the world His only Son He gave.

All those who have trust-ed in God's only Son, And hold this pre-cious treas-ure in their hearts, Seek ways to make it known to all who need to know That God so loved the world His on-ly Son He gave.

We show the love of God each day we live, Re-veal Christ's pres-ence in our lives; And how the Holy Spir-it guides us

day by day, For God so loved the world His on-ly Son He gave.

Chorus:

Share His love by tel-ling what the Lord has done for you, Share His love by shar-ing of your faith, And show the world that Je-sus Christ is real to you ev'-ry mo-ment, ev'-ry day.

— William J. Reynolds

HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS IN CHRIST!

REMINDERS

The 2002-2003 Budget is in the amount of \$806,055.00: Foreign Missions \$80,200.00, State Missions \$565,855.00, Shaw University \$49,500.00, Shaw Divinity School \$33,500.00, Central Children Home \$36,500.00, and Baptist Assembly \$40,500.00.

On Saturday, January 11, 2003, will be the One-Day Session of the Woman's Convention at the Raleigh Civic Center, beginning at 9:00 A.M. for Seniors, Young Adults, and Youth. Among the guests will be representatives of our objectives. A-1's and Lydia organizations, and preaching will be featured.

Please begin praying now and making preparations to attend this session. Also, please bring a very generous gift for State Missions.

Suggested financial quotas for 2002-2003 have been sent out to church missionary circle presidents or a contact person. If your church has not received a suggested quota, please contact the Convention Office immediately.* ■

Practicing Godly Love Affects Christian Ethics

By Mrs. Carrye W. Pritchett

On November 2, 2002, the 21st Annual Youth Evangelism Conference hosted by Halifax County Missionary Union was opened with Ms. Vernice Lassiter, Youth President presiding. Ashley Whitaker and Joshua Lashley rendered Scripture and prayer respectively, both youth of Halifax County. The presentation of colors was presented by the Northwest Halifax County Junior Air Force ROTC. The Youth Choir provided a program of soul-stirring music throughout the Conference.

Beulah Hubbard, youth president of the Union and a member of First Baptist Church, Roanoke Rapids, extended a warm welcome.

Greetings were extended by Mrs. Audrey P. Battle, president of the host union and on behalf of the WBH&FMC where she serves as 2nd Vice President. Others extending greetings included Mrs. Doris High, youth supervisor of the Union; Mr. Ricky Helms, principal of

Northwest Halifax High School; Mrs. Julius M. McDonald, president of the Woman's Convention; and Mrs. Ellender LeMay, youth supervisor of the WBH&FMC. Mrs. LeMay stated that youth evangelism suggests that we should reach out to win the lost to Christ. She also mentioned that the youth have been challenged to read the Bible through in a year.

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie gave announcements relative to the budget and upcoming events of the Convention. She stated that the youth department exceeded its budget, which was more than \$100,000.00. To God be the Glory!!!

The theme discussions on "Transforming Family Communication Through Christian Values and Ethics" were beautifully discussed by Ms. Kamillah LeMay of District 8, Group 1 and Ms. Devon Townsend of District 5, Group 2. In Kamillah's presentation on values, she elaborated on several values,

which included love, honor, respect, trust and obedience. She stated that delayed obedience is disobedience. She also stated that a person's value would control his conduct.

In Devon's presentation on ethics, she stated that ethics consist of principles of honor and morality; ethics must be based on God's Word and accepted rules of con-

duct must be rooted in the Word of God. Using the scriptures Matthew 6:33, 22:37, and Proverbs 3:5, she urged the youth to seek the Kingdom of God first; to love God with all their heart and to trust in the Lord. She related how she had tried all week to prepare her message, but it was

See ETHICS, Page 7

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ETHICS, Cont'd From Page 6

not until she sought God in Prayer that she was able to write her message. She concluded the message by saying love is a commitment and one should not let feelings override the heart.

As usual, the youth sharing their evangelism experiences and asking questions is always a highlight of the conference. Numerous questions were asked, such as . . . What is the difference between Christians and church folks?; Can you be mean and still be a Christian?; If God forgives us, why won't man forgive us?; How do you minister to peers but still act young and fit in with their peers?; What is the real meaning of tithing? And the questions went on and on with answers being given by the youth panel and several pastors.

Minster Jeremy Buie of Mill Branch Baptist Church and of Xavier University rendered a very challenging message using the scriptures John 3:16 and John

21:15-17. The message title was "The Price of Love". People in the world have to steal love from the church. They have a tendency to limit their love to their circles of friends. He stated that we should love people not for what they do, but in spite of what they do. He stated that it is time that we start loving one another as God has commanded. He also reminded us that "the price of love requires that Spirit of God, a selfless mentality and sacrifice." He said that we must be willing to pay the price and say, "Lord, I'll go; Send me."

Reverence Joseph Battle, pastor Quankey Baptist Church, Roanoke Rapids, extended the invitation to Christian discipleship and rendered the altar call to prayer.

Complementary bags, prepared by HCMU youth supervisor Doris High and the Union's 4th Vice President Carolyn Battle, were given to the youth at the door of the conference.

North American Baptist Women's Union 50th Anniversary

October 2-6, 2002 • Montego Bay, Jamaica

Mrs. Colene Stanley attended the Conference of the North American Baptist Women's Union held at the Wyndham Rose Hall Resort and Country Club, Montego Bay, Jamaica, October 2-6, 2002. Mrs. Stanley is Immediate Past Chairperson of Executive Board of WBSC and 1st Vice-President of the Lott Carey Woman's Auxiliary.

The "Women of God Becoming One Spirit and Purpose" theme had a real statement for delegates arriving from all corners of the world.

The 50th Conference was one of such magnitude that the coming together of women from all over God's world would leave a definite mark on the heart and mind of those in attendance, "A new life giving experience." It was a pleasant experience one can hold close to the heart and mind forever, for sure.

No one attending the Conference could forget some of the presenters, performers, and exciting gospel in songs, "How Wonderful". Held in spiritual fame was a person as Barbara Joiner, who told of a lady using her spoon to feed rice from a rice bowl to a neighbor who had a stroke. The challenge is Women of God, use your spoon (use what you have). The Assembly Leaders and the Prayer Walkers were outstanding to say the least: Bible Study Leader, Dr. Molly Marshall; Keynote Speaker, Reverend Betty Wright Riggins on women in Moses' life; Theme Interpreter, Barbara Joiner (life experiences); Spiritual Aerobics Instructor, Wendy Young, who is the educator and advisor for young life and founder of the "Jesus & I" Ministry (Sister to our very own Reverend Yvonne Best, Lott Carey Woman's Auxiliary. (What a small world we live in!) Her Caribbean seaside exercises were body flexing, eye openers, and

"keep up if you can" exercises. The music and praise leaders were awesome, all of them.

Dr. Denton Lotz, Banquet speaker, challenged us to listen with our hearts, minds and souls to Rachel weeping and calling for her children. Other presenters were Musical Praise Leaders, Heavenly Praise Dancers, missionary participants, and the historical highlights of NABWU. All in all, it was a heavenly experience here on Earth.

The program outline was planned and coordinated so that one could not afford to miss any part of the assembly for any reason, from the opening program until the closing. Appropriate breaks were part of the program.

Our very own Dr. Beverly Dunston Scott, serving as president, made us feel so blessed for her presentation as a most dynamic presider. One could not help but say a prayer of thanksgiving for just the fact that she is our own Lott Carey Woman's Auxiliary President. Her address to the Conference on lessons she has learned turned on a flashlight of learning on all of us listening.

All of the presenters were just great. The wisdom, life experiences, shared prayers, songs of faith, love, and courage will linger for times to come as bank shares of knowledge.

Hats off to the planning committee for their diligence in planning the Conference. Thank each of you. Thanks to the Lott Carey Women's Auxiliary for giving me this golden opportunity to share in this heavenly experience while here on Earth. Congratulations to all the women who shared their love and life for those of us who had not had this glorious experience before.

AVERY, Cont'd From Page 5

churches, and associations to support foreign missions through total stewardship.

We are indebted to the past, encouraged by the present, and excited about the future. Let us press on to meet the challenges that are before us. I am convinced that we will do all the good we can, in all the places we can, with all the means we can, as long as ever we can. If you have any questions, comments, or would like to have someone visit your community regarding this ministry, feel free to contact me at: (704) 637-0954 - (church; leave message); (704) 637-1137 - (fax); averyrevkin@aol.com - (e-mail); or write Reverend Nilous M. Avery, II, P. O. Box 2767, Salisbury, North Carolina 28145-2767.

ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN

SERVING ON THE COMMITTEE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS IS ASKED TO PLEASE CONTACT ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. **Deadline: December 31st, 2002.**

Thank you, General Baptists from all over the state, for the opportunity to serve God and humanity. A special thanks is in order for my wife Sherry, my son Joshua, my parents Dr. and Mrs. N. M. Avery, other family members, the Mount Zion family, and the Rowan and Mud Creek Associations. I deem it an honor and blessing from God Almighty to continue in the spirit of unity, love, and fellowship of Christian bonding. I ask for your prayers and your support for the awesome task of our great Convention. "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen." {I Corinthians 16:23-23, NIV}.

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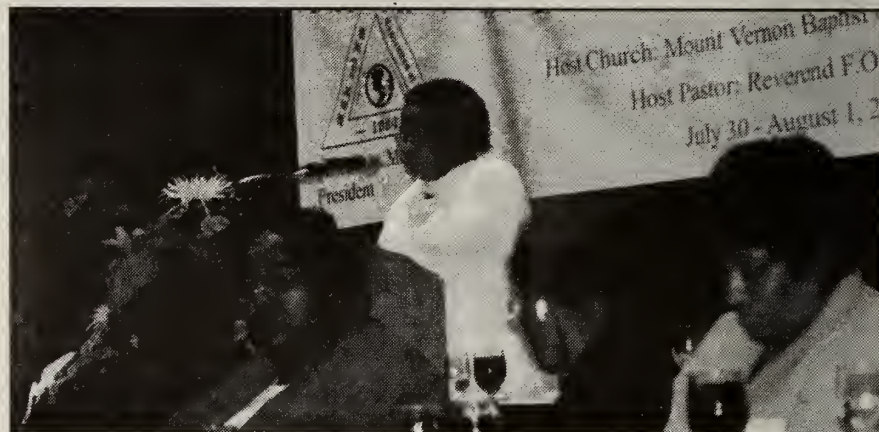
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WOMEN'S CONVENTION NEWS

WBH&FMC Pictorial Highlights of the 118th Annual Session



Banquet Participants: Dr. Priscilla Brodie, Rev. Mary Young (Speaker), Mrs. Julius McDonald, Dr. Charles Bullock



The Johnny B. McLester Banquet
WBSC President Julius McDonald, Presiding



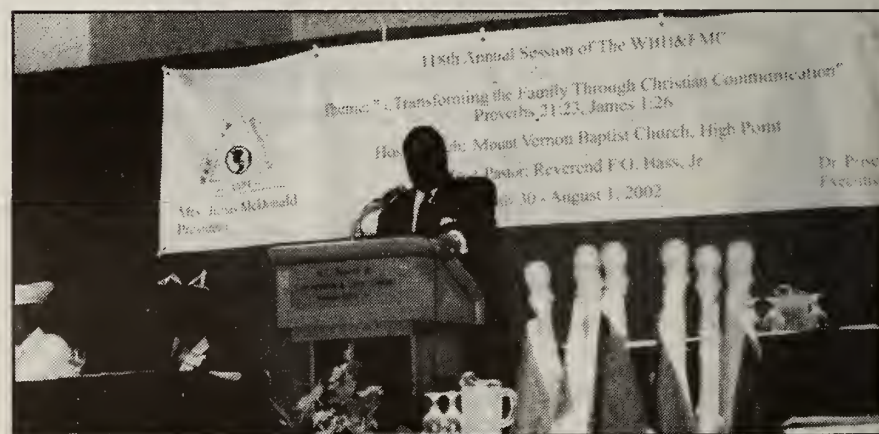
The Johnny B. McLester Banquet
Rev. Mary Young, Speaking



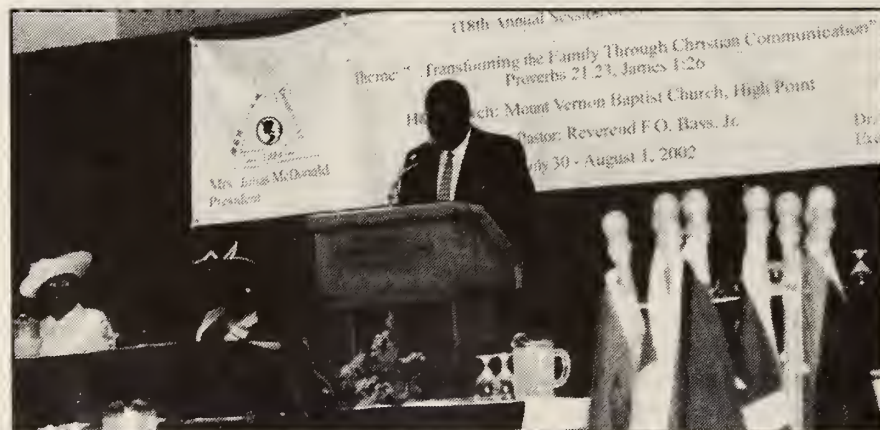
The Johnny B. McLester Banqueters



Rev. Lincoln Lee
Preaching



Rev. F.O. Bass, Jr., Host Pastor
Mount Vernon Baptist Church, High Point



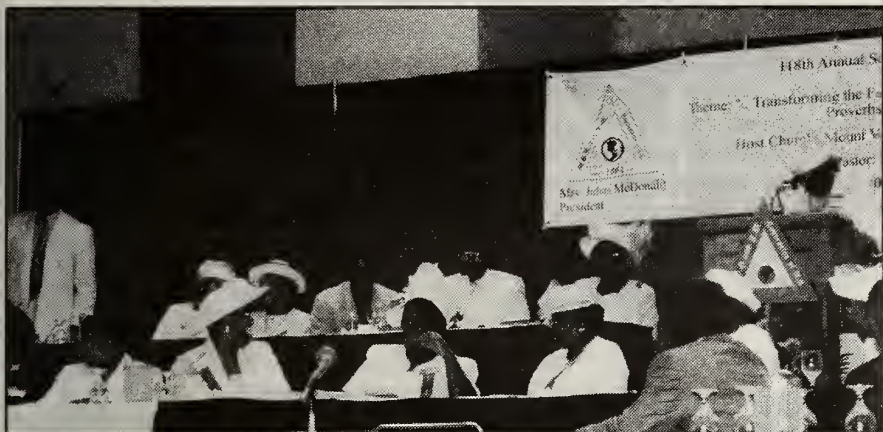
Dr. Howard Parker, Preaching
Foreign Missions Night



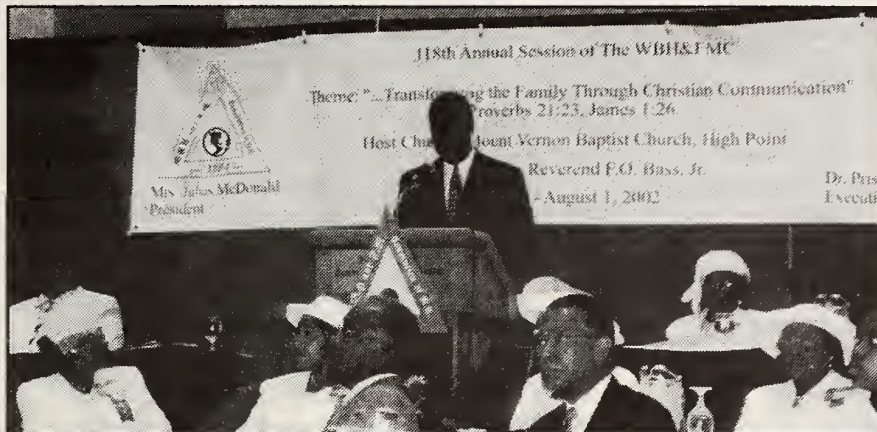
Young Adult Presentation
Foreign Missions Night

WOMEN'S CONVENTION NEWS

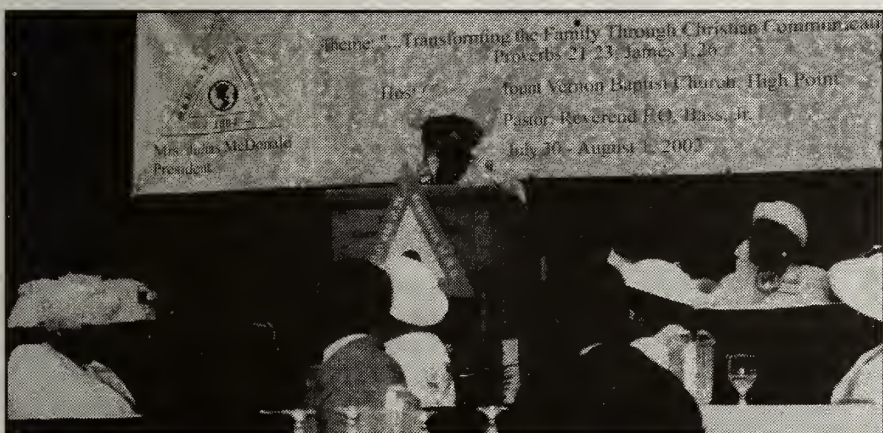
WBH&FMC Pictorial Highlights of the 118th Annual Session



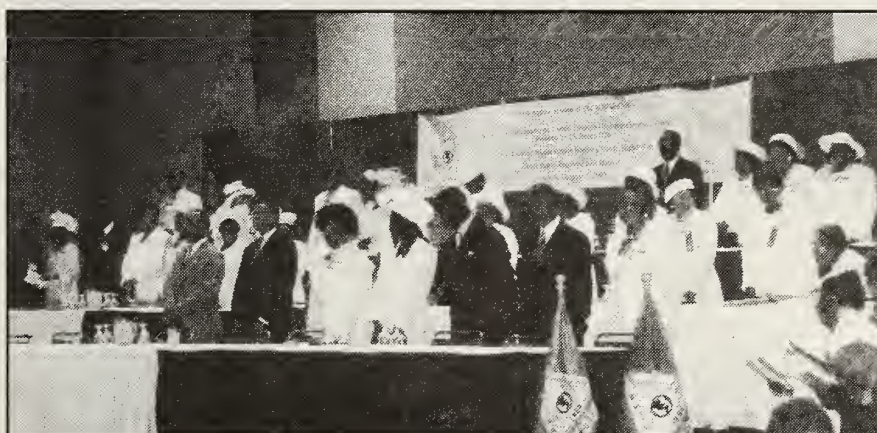
Vice President Bronnie Daniels
Presiding



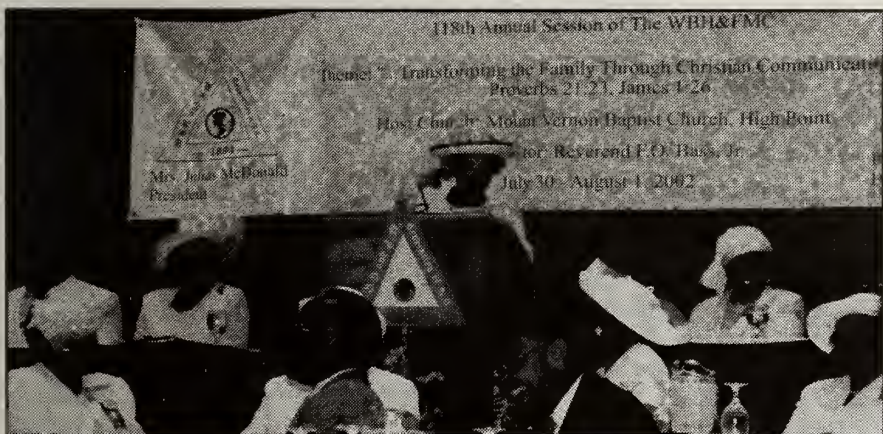
Dr. John D. Fuller, President, GBSC
Giving Greetings



President Julius McDonald
Speaking at Wednesday Morning Session



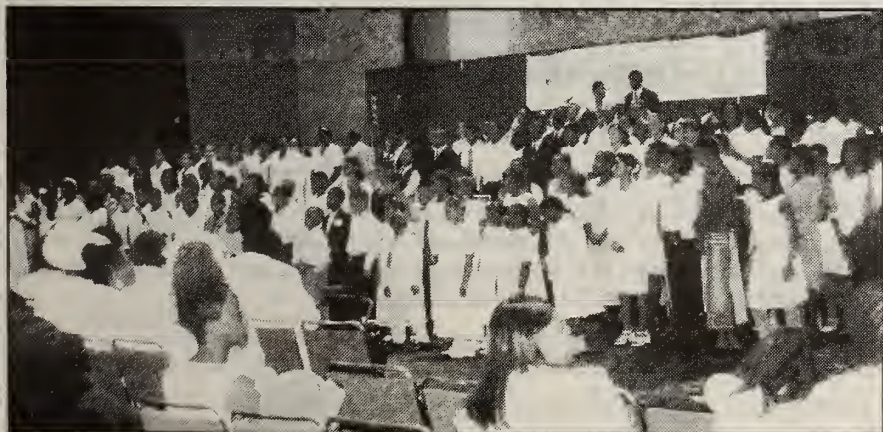
The Dias - All 3 Departments
Wednesday Morning Session



Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie
Presenting Annual Report



Conventional Choir - Wednesday Morning
Mr. Waverly Camp, Director



Youth Department Mini-Concert
Wednesday Afternoon Session



Top L-R: Dr. John Grant, Dr. Howard Parker, Dr. Charles Bullock, Dr. Leonzo
Lynch, Dr. Jasper Reed. Bottom L-R: Rev. Ricky Banks, Dr. Gloria Gerald, Rev.
Patricia Robinson, Rev. Nilous Avery, II.

North Carolina Baptist Ushers' News

By Alice W. McNair

As we reflect on the highlights of the One Day Session of the North Carolina Baptist Ushers' Convention held February 23 at the Benton Center in Winston-



Forest Eaves

Salem, North Carolina, the words of the hymnal, "May The Work I've Done Speak For Me", certainly summarized the service rendered by several ushers. Honored with a plaque for 30 or more years of continuous dedicated

service in the Ushering Ministry were Mrs. Treva Lesance (68), Second New Light Baptist Church, Tarheel, NC; Mrs. Effie Cooper (52), New Salem Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, NC; and Mr. Roy Williams (42), Elizabeth Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, NC.

The North Carolina Baptist Ushers' Convention, Reverend Oletha Troublefield, President, and Mr. Charlie Faison, Vice President, and ushers of the Kenansville Eastern Missionary Baptist

Association (Northern District) saluted these ushers for outstanding years of service: Lillie Kelly and Willie C. Bowden (68), Helen Ingram (62), Nannie Barfield (41), Horace Kornegay and Louise Brown (40). Ushers rendering 30 or more years in the Ushering Ministry included the following: Shirley Moore, Gladys Winston, Annie Oates, Lucy Brinson, Nanny Thompson, Katie Nichols, Jannie Hodges, Louise Morrissey, Rosie Glaspie, Nathaniel Simmons, Dalphine Lassiter, Evyonne Dailey and Mary E. Outlaw.

The officers of the North Carolina Baptist Ushers' Convention were installed during the Installation Service of the General Baptist State Convention held on October 31. The host church for the Annual Session was the Mount Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC. President Forest Eaves and the elected officials have vowed to render four years of committed service. The officers of the North Carolina Baptist Ushers' Convention thank the ushers of the Union Missionary Baptist Association including the Mount Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church for the service rendered during the convention.

Reverend Dennis Leach of the General Baptist State Convention reflected on the Ushering Ministry during a Planning

Session of the Ushers' Convention Executive Board Meeting on Friday, November 8. Reverend Leach also listened to the concerns of the Executive Board. The meeting was held at the site of the North Carolina Baptist Ushers' Annual Workshop, the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC. On Saturday following the Executive Board Meeting approximately 200 ushers gathered to participate in a workshop led by Reverend Marvin T. Clowney, Dean, Mr. Roy Harris, Assistant Dean, and Ms. Eddie A. Culbreth, First Aid Chairperson. Information presented during the workshops will be included in a future article. Dean Clowney, officers and ushers also praised Reverend William Marable, Pastor, and the choir of the Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Fairmont, NC for the blessing received through the

Word and the hymns of praise! President Eaves also expressed appreciation to Reverend J. C. McLean, officers, ushers and disciples of the Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Laurinburg, NC, the host church for the Annual Workshop.

Send news to Alice W. McNair, Reporter, Post Office Box 105, Newton Grove, NC 28366. All news and announcements must be received no later than the 1st of each month.

Ushers, as we are approaching the Christmas Season, let us remember that "Jesus is the Reason for the Season"! Let us glorify Jesus Christ in all that we do! On behalf of President Eaves and the officers of the Ushers' Convention have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Zion Association Partnership with GBSC on a Certificate Program

The Zion Missionary Baptist Association in their annual session voted to accept a partnership with the General Baptist State Convention to offer a course in "Making Disciples".

This course was introduced to the association by Dr. William Thurston, Chairman of the Department of Religion at Shaw University, at the invitation of the Zion Association Sunday School Convention President, Reverend Dale Jordan.

Reverend Jordan first heard of the "Making Disciples" course at the Trinity Session of the GBSC at Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Reverend Jordan had been looking for a program that would help train the convention and the association. Reverend Jordan felt that this course was what Zion needed, so he shared his vision with the moderator, Reverend Larry Leake.

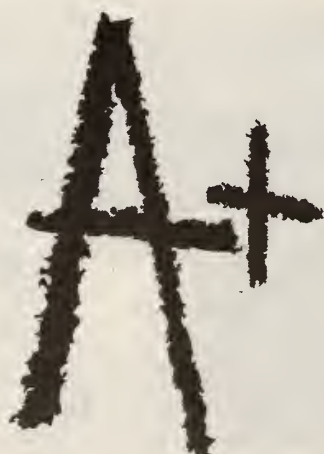
Dr. Thurston was invited to bring this program to Zion. First, during the annual

session of the Sunday School convention, then during the annual session of the Zion Association. The association voted to implement this course, and a planning committee was named. The members are: Rev. C. Sturdivant, Rev. Dale Jordan, Rev. Walter Ellerbe, Moderator, Leake, Rev. Howard Campbell, Rev. Collene Ellerbe, and Rev. Richard Graham.

The "Making Disciples" course will be offered at two sites to accommodate all members of the association. One site will be at the New Parkers Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Wadesboro, NC, and the Flint Ridge East Missionary Baptist Church, Marshville, NC. Each site will have three different classes to accommodate various age groups. All instructors will be persons approved by the GBSC.

Classes for the "Making Disciples" course will begin early in January with an anticipated enrollment of 80 students.

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2002 General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Election Results

Submitted by Rev. Reginald A. Wells
Chairman of Elections Committee
Congress of Christian Education
GBSC, N.C., Inc.



Diane Newell

Rev. Charles Walton
Election Registration

Rev. F. O. Bass
Election Nominating Committee

Mrs. Portia H. Brandon
Ex-Officio

President
Charles T. Bullock

Vice President-At-Large
John H. Grant

First Vice President
Howard Parker



Dr. Portia Brandon

Second Vice President
Nilous M. Avery, II

Third Vice President
Leonzo Lynch

Fourth Vice President
Ricky Banks

Historian
Jasper Reed

Parliamentarian
J. Ray Butler

Recording Secretary
Gloria Gerald

Assistant Recording Secretary
Patricia Robinson

Statistician
T. Griffey, II



Top L-R: Dr. John Grant, Dr. Howard Parker, Dr. Charles Bullock, Dr. Leonzo Lynch, Dr. Jasper Reed. Bottom L-R: Rev. Ricky Banks, Dr. Gloria Gerald, Rev. Patricia Robinson, Rev. Nilous Avery, II

Solomon Installed as Pastor

Reverend Melvin Bryant Solomon was installed as the pastor of the Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church Sunday, October 27, 2002, at 4:00 p.m. Reverend Solomon is the 15th pastor to serve the 131-year-old church located in Vance County, Henderson, North Carolina. Dr. Richard M. Henderson, Pastor of the Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, Manson, North Carolina, delivered the Installation Sermon, "Where Do We Go From Here". Music was rendered by the Mass Choir of the Mount Olive Baptist Church. The Charge to the Pastor was given by Reverend James Whitaker of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Enfield, North Carolina. The Charge to the Church was made by Reverend John W. Smith, Pastor of the Little Zion Baptist Church, Halifax, North Carolina, and the Bethany Baptist Church of Valentine, Virginia. Other service participants were Reverend Lennis Thorpe, Pastor of Shocco Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Warrenton, North Carolina, Installation Prayer; Reverend Henry D. Gregory, IV, Pastor of the Frank Price Memorial Presbyterian Church, Black Creek, North Carolina, presented the Bible; and Minister William W. Solomon, brother of the pastor and a member of the Jesus House of Prayer, Riverdale, Maryland, presented the Hymnal.



Rev. Melvin Solomon

Reverend Lacy L. Joyner, Sr., Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Oxford, North Carolina and Moderator of the United Shiloh Missionary Baptist Association of which Mount Olive is a member was on hand to bring greetings from the Association. Other members of the clergy, family and friends were present to witness this milestone in the life of Pastor Solomon and to fellowship during the reception following the service.

Pastor Solomon is a native of Halifax County, North Carolina. Currently he resides in Durham, North Carolina. He is married to Vernetta Pratt Solomon, and has one son, Timothy.

In 1975 Rev. Solomon received a Bachelor of Science Degree from North Carolina Central University. He was awarded a Master of Divinity Degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina in 1991.

Reverend Solomon acknowledged his call into the ministry and was licensed by the First Calvary Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina on April 19, 1987. He was ordained by the East Cedar Grove Baptist Association on December 30, 1987.

He has served the cause of Christ Jesus in the following positions: Project minister for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (SBC), 1988-91; Evangelist for the Yates Baptist Association (SBC), Durham, North Carolina, 1991-92; Senior Pastor of the Greenfield Baptist Church in Creedmoor, North Carolina, 1992-95; and a Clinical Chaplain for the North Carolina Department of Corrections, 1996-2002.

He has conducted workshops on such subjects as "The Holy Spirit", "Church Administration", "Pastoral Care - Self Care", and "Christian Counseling in the New Millennium".

Pastor Solomon is a former BEH Teacher of the Durham Public Schools system.

Rev. Solomon holds membership in the State Employees Association of North Carolina, the Association of Clinical Chaplains, and the American Association of Christian Counselors. He also serves as the Parliamentarian for the United Shiloh Baptist Association, Inc.

He is the son of Mrs. Minnie Copeland Solomon and the late William Thomas Solomon. ■

GBSC Is Available To Work With Churches

By Dr. Archie D. Logan Jr.

Greetings! The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina is available to work with your church during the time you do not have a Pastor. We will work with the Deacons and other officers to provide guidance as you search for a new pastor to lead your church.

Some of the things we offer:

- We have ordained Baptist ministers available to assist the Deacons in carrying out the Church Ordinances: Lord Supper and Baptism.
- We have ordained clergy who can serve as an "Interim Minister" in your church.
- Some suggested workshops:
 - ✓ How To Select An Interim Pastor?
 - ✓ How To Call A Pastor?
 - ✓ How Much Should We Pay Our Pastor?
 - ✓ Church Administration
 - ✓ How To Plan A Church Budget
 - ✓ Effective Bible Study
 - ✓ Evangelism Classes
 - ✓ Special Training For Deacons/Trustees
 - ✓ Christian Education Planning
 - ✓ Church Development
 - ✓ Please call if you are interested in any of these services!
 - ✓ 1-800-639-GBSC (4272)

A Historical Observation

By Dr. Jasper P. Reed, Historian
General Baptist State Convention

We have been told, on numerous occasions, that necessity is the Mother of Inventions. To understand how this applies to the Historian and ultimately all



Dr. Jasper
Reed

of us who are members of this Great Baptist Organization, GBSC, we need to step back and see it through the eyes of our founding fathers. The founding of what is now known as the General Baptist State

Convention of North Carolina, Inc. affords us the opportunity to take a historical retrospective look at the environment then and now. Also to help us bring into focus the relative meaning of the words, "maybe it will go away", particularly if there were outstanding issues at that time.

On Thursday, October 17, 1867, our founding fathers, guided by the Holy Spirit, were led to formulate what we now

know as GBSC. It is recorded that they met at First African Baptist Church, in Goldsboro circa 4 PM on that date. Theirs was to commence growing this Convention with the help of the Lord. There were outstanding issues. October 1867 was less than two years after the 13th amendment to the constitution, which freed the slaves, was passed. Also it was just two years and ten months after President Lincoln proposed the Emancipation Proclamation which was designed to free some but not all slaves. While we were politically free, we were still enslaved in many ways. These were still trying times. Churches were under attack by soldiers robbing them of their wares. These were also days of missed Opportunities. It was apparent that God was speaking through the hearts of our founders to the issues of the time. Listen how He used Moses to speak to us in Deuteronomy 4:32, "For ask now of the days that are past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and ask from the one side of the heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it?" This great thing as it applies to us is the GBSC.

What were those days like leading up to our beginning? Andrew Johnson was President and the Carolinas were under the watchful eyes of a military Government. They ruled over civil governments and replaced duly elected Officials when deemed necessary. The northern influences were being felt.

Blacks were free to vote but they along with everyone else had to pay a tax. Most were unable to pay the tax because of their economic conditions. There existed a tremendous disparity in Black Education that impacted our economy. Because of the ravages of slavery they were less prepared to survive in a free society, even though by population count they outnumbered the white population in many districts. Note that our founding fathers were perceptive enough to recognize all forms of enslavements to include cultural enslavement. They embarked upon a course of spiritual development that was designed to prepare us to unite under a single banner by studying God's word, uniting in worship with Him, learning about our history, creating organizations where we can work together to advance His Kingdom's work here on earth, and do this with respect to the rightness or wrongness of our conduct,

and the goodness or badness of our motives. Not only did they found a convention, churches, and districts, they also founded Institutions for Academic Education and Training to prepare us for entry in to multiple fields of service to humanity.

This is the Legacy that we inherit as we move into our 136th year of service to God and man. Where are we today? Do we need to look at ourselves? The Bible says history repeats itself. Before we begin to feel comfortably about our personal situations, motives, and actions come with me to Ecclesiastes 3:15, "That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; God requireth that which is past." Whatever we do we should not abandon or destroy the commitment made by our founders to make GBSC the greatest convention in the nation. History dictates this course of action for us this day. Please pray for GBSC that it might continue to grow and perform in accordance with God's leading. Each of us should do a personal inventory to see where we are in responding to "maybe it will go away". The "it" being the conditions that existed in the year 1867. ■

GMBC Partners with Triad Baby Love Plus Program to Decrease Infant Mortality

North Carolina ranks 4th in the nation for infant mortality. Forsyth County continues to fall behind the state and nation in the reduction of infant mortality. According to the North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics for 2001 – the infant death rate in Forsyth County in comparison to other counties of its population. Although the state average of infant deaths seems to be slowly decreasing overall, the percentage of those deaths being from African-American descent has increased.

Efforts to address this problem, Galilee Missionary Baptist Church received a \$14,000 grant from the Triad Baby Love Plus Program to help reduce the infant mortality rate in Forsyth County. Under the leadership of Pastor Robert L. McGowens, Sr., the Church's Care Ministry was established. The Care Ministry is an extension of the Church's vision that views the church as the foundation for a stronger and healthier community in which all may thrive.

The ministry is a partnership with local community agencies in Forsyth

County to improve the health of African-American babies. The focus of the ministry is African-American women of childbearing age who live in the eastern part of the community. Monthly information sessions will be held to teach the women holistic and spiritually based health promotion behaviors to improve the health of infants and children.

According to Teresa Tyson, the ministry's coordinator, facilitators from local community agencies will discuss a variety of topics such as: child safety, immunizations, growth and development, nutrition, family planning, substance abuse, domestic violence, sexually transmitted diseases, mentoring, self-esteem, employment and budgeting.

Please call Galilee Missionary Baptist Church for dates for the next class time and to register.

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church
575 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 724-3857

THANK YOU

TO THE GENERAL BAPTIST CONVENTION FAMILY:

Thanks to all of you who supported my candidacy and voted for me during the annual session of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc. I shall continue to work, support and lift up issues I believe to be pertinent to the Convention.

Again, thanks to all of you and may God continue to bless each of you.

In His Service,

James W. Smith, M.Div., JD

JAMES W. SMITH

146 Presidents Drive
Durham, North Carolina 27704

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Telephone: (919) 479-0501

www.gbsc.org

Baptist Informer Youth Corner

By Delores Griffey

What About Forgiveness?

Scripture References: Psalm 32:1; Acts 5:29-42; 13:38-39; 26:18; Ephesians 1:7; Mark 3:28-29; Psalm 51.



Delores Griffey

Forgiveness of Our Sins by God.

Why Is Forgiveness Important and Necessary? Because we have all sinned against and have offended God, our creator and Judge.

Because we are guilty and deserve God's punishments for our sins.

Because we are in danger of dying in our sins and then there is no hope for ever and ever.

Because we are in danger of everlasting punishment.

"These shall go away into everlasting punishment but the righteous unto eternal life" (Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:15).

Because without God's forgiveness and cleansing from our sins we cannot go to Heaven when we leave this world.

Because we are in danger in getting used to and set in our ways and our hearts become hardened toward God to where we will never listen to God and change.

Bible Examples of People in Need of Forgiveness:

Joseph (Genesis 50:15-21)

Joseph had been sold by his brothers to slave traders who brought him to Egypt and sold him to the captain of Pharaoh's guard. It is quite an interesting story told in Genesis, chapters 37-50. Joseph eventually became ruler of Egypt next to Pharaoh. There came a severe famine to that part of the world and Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to buy corn. They did not recognize Joseph but Joseph recog-

nized them. He had his whole family (70 persons) move to Egypt and took care of them. By and by their father Jacob died and with Pharaoh's permission was taken back to his homeland for burial. The brothers, knowing their father was dead, thought Joseph might now get revenge on them. Read the story of their asking forgiveness and receiving it from Joseph in Genesis 50:15-21.

Israel after making and worshipping a golden calf (Exodus 32).

"The Lord said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people: Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them and I will make you a great nation" (Exodus 32:9-10).

After going down from the mount of God and seeing the situation, verses 31-33 read:

"And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if you will forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray you, out of your book which you have written. And the Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever has sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book. Therefore now go, lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto you: behold, my Angel shall go before you: nevertheless in the day when I visit I will visit their sin upon them. And the Lord plagued the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made."

We all are in need of forgiveness whether at home, school, playground, mall or church. We need to ask God daily to forgive us and to create unto us a clean heart. We need to ask our brother to forgive us. Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus said unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Matt 18:21-22.

By Dr. Elbert Lee

How can gerontology help to contribute to a better way of life for the elderly? Dr. Elbert Lee, a consultant to the Institute on Gerontological Ministries and Services, Shaw Divinity School, seeks to provide answers in the discipline of gerontology, a program that he initiated and conducted for a number of years at the school.



Dr. Elbert Lee

From biology, psychology, sociology, economics, political theory, medicine, health care delivery, philosophy and religion, facts have been collected to improve the quality of life for the aged. Dr. Lee brings his insights from these areas to help equip students for ministry to the aged.

It is Dr. Lee's contention that the Shaw Divinity School is in a unique position, for it is one of the few seminaries in the country that offers a curriculum in gerontology for ministers and religious workers.

Dr. Lee notes that there is a faculty of well-trained personnel in ministry that can provide for services to older adults, especially so among blacks involved in local parish ministries. The program of gerontological ministries developed out of the interest of former students, who saw the need for receiving some formal training in gerontology and geriatrics, and persons from Wake and neighboring counties who saw similar needs.

Today, there are numerous students enrolled in the gerontology program, thanks to the hard work and dedication of Dr. Lee. We salute him for bringing such an outstanding and innovated program to the Divinity School.

Doctors study the illnesses of older people, biologists study the physical changes aging brings to the cells of the body, psychiatrists study mental illness among older people, psychologists study age changes in sensory perception, economists study the income requirements of older people, architects design special housing for older people, and the sociologists study the relationship between older people and their society and culture. Almost every area of study dealing with man or his needs has a branch which deals with older man. All of these tiny branches of these many fields come together under the name of gerontology – literally the logic of aging.

There are four related but separate

Gerontology

aspects to the study of aging. The biological aspect deals with physical aging – the body's gradual loss of the ability to renew itself. The psychological aspect deals with the sensory processes, perception, motor skills, intelligence, problem-solving, understanding, learning, drives, and emotions of the aging individual. The biological and psychological changes, which occur with advancing age coupled with the social environment of the individual, produce a third aspect – the behavioral. This aspect of aging deals with attitudes, expectations, motives, the self-image, social roles, personality, and psychological adjustment to the situation. Finally, the sociological aspect of aging deals with the society in which aging occurs, the influence this society has on the aging individual, and the influence he has on it. The older person's health, income, work, and leisure, as these relate to his family, friends, voluntary associations, and religious groups, as well as to society in general, the economy, the government, and the community are all part of the sociology of aging.

These four aspects of aging – biological, psychological, behavioral, and sociological – are all interrelated in the life of any older person.

Shaw Divinity School

- Institute of Gerontological Ministries and Services
- Motto "Looking at Aging Professionally and Theologically"

The church meeting the major needs of the elderly.

The Church and Gerontology offers:

- A Christian perspective on aging.
- A spiritual pilgrimage.
- A program for older adults in the church.
- Community concerns for the aging. (a handbook about care in the home)
- Information on Home Health Services.
- Evaluating the Quality of Home Care Services.
- How to arrange a Homebound Person's Environment.
- Setting Goals and Objectives for Church Programs.
- Nutritional concerns.

This program will feature the following:

- Physical Fitness/Exercise Program.
- Theological courses will be offered at the Shaw Divinity School for the Master Degree and Diploma Program.
- Support Groups for certain days of the week.

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Keeping Food Safe at Holiday Events

By Dr. Mary D. Jacobs
Project Coordinator

This is the season for holiday celebrations. Don't let "foodborne illness" be an uninvited guest at your large family and church events. Every year hundreds of



Dr. Mary
Jacobs

cases of foodborne illnesses occur after these events because cooks are not familiar with how to handle large volumes of food safely. Just remember, an ounce of prevention from foodborne illness is worth a pound of cure. Follow

the following advice from the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service to keep food safe from harmful bacteria.

Practicing Good Personal Hygiene

Following the tips below will greatly reduce the chance that harmful bacteria or chemicals will contaminate food.

- Wash your hands with soap for at least 20 seconds before beginning any food

preparation. Wash also after returning from the bathroom; after touching dirty

surfaces; after using cleaning materials; and after touching your eyes, nose, or

mouth.

- Do not dry your hands on cloth towels because they may be a source of contamination. Use paper towels.

- Wear plastic gloves if you have sores, cuts, or scrapes on your hands. These

injuries contain bacteria, which could be transferred to the food.

- Never lick cooking utensils or dip your fingers into food to taste it. This could

contaminate the food. Instead, use a clean spoon to dip out a portion to taste.

- Restrain your hair by wearing a hair net or pulling it back in a ponytail.

- Do not wear artificial nails or jewelry. The only jewelry that should be worn is

a wedding band.

Transporting Fresh Food Safely

When transporting foods from the market or home, store the following items on ice and refrigerate them immediately when you reach your destination:

- Raw meats, fish, and poultry.
- Deli meats.
- Eggs.
- Fruits and vegetables.
- Dairy products.

Fresh foods are highly perishable.

Chill them in a refrigerator in waterproof, plastic bags or containers. When transporting them in a non-refrigerated vehicle, completely immerse the food or containers in ice. The following foods may be immersed directly or in plastic bags in ice or icy water: whole, raw fruits and vegetables; cut, raw vegetables, such as celery or carrot sticks or cut potatoes; tofu; and raw chicken or fish. Do not eat ice used to keep foods cold or put it in drinks because it is not safe to consume.

Preparing Food Safely

When preparing foods, there are many opportunities for cross-contamination. To prevent this:

- Use only equipment, utensils, and surfaces that have been properly cleaned and

sanitized. Make a sanitizing solution by adding one teaspoon of unscented bleach to one gallon of warm (not hot) water.

- Store raw meat and poultry separately from foods that will not be cooked or

that are ready-to-eat, such as fruits and vegetables and other cooked foods.

- Use separate cutting boards and utensils to prepare raw meats and poultry. This

decreases the chance of contaminating foods that are ready-to-eat.

Cooking Food Safely

Prepare food no more than one day

before it will be served – unless it is to be frozen. Never partially cook food, let it sit, and then finish cooking it. This allows bacteria to grow and toxins to form. (Toxins are poisons that some bacteria produce.) Because some toxins are

not destroyed by heat, reheating food that has been at unsafe temperatures will not destroy them.

Cook meat and poultry thoroughly to kill harmful bacteria. The only safe way to make sure meat or poultry is



Dr. Anita
Holmes

cooked well is to use a food thermometer:

- Poultry should be cooked to at least 165° F.
- Ground meat should be cooked to at least 155° F.
- Egg dishes should be cooked to at least 155° F.
- Pork or beef roast should be cooked to at least 145° F.
- Fish should be cooked to at least 145° F.

You can buy a food thermometer at a department store, hardware store, or grocery store for \$5 to \$12.

Serving Food Safely

When serving food, keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold. Bacteria grow

best in foods that are between 90° F and 100° F, which is lukewarm. During holding, hot foods should be at least 140° F or hotter, while cold foods should be at most 40° F or colder. The best way to maintain these temperatures is to use smaller serving dishes or trays and rotate them often from the oven, stove, or refrigerator. Using hot plates and ice also is helpful.

Never leave food out for more than two hours. After this, food should be eaten or discarded.

Cleaning and Sanitizing

Store dirty utensils, dishware, and cooking equipment in a large covered container. Dirty items attract flies and other insects, which are germ- and disease-carriers. It is best to wash and sanitize these items at another location where a three-compartment sink or a dishwasher is available.

Proper Garbage Removal

- Have several plastic or metal garbage cans with plastic liners and lids available

to prevent garbage overflow.

- Arrange access to an industrial-sized garbage receptacle so garbage cans may

be emptied frequently.

Remember, foodborne illness is nearly 100 percent preventable – just handle food safely from the time it's bought until it is served.

Try this "Heart Healthy" Savory Potato Salad at one of your celebrations. Be sure to keep it chilled to prevent foodborne illness.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH Savory Potato Salad

6 medium	potatoes (about 2 lbs.)
2 stalks	celery, finely chopped
2 stalks	scallion, finely chopped
1/4 cup	red bell pepper, coarsely chopped
1/4 cup	green bell pepper, coarsely chopped
1 Tbsp	onion, finely chopped
1 egg, hard boiled, chopped	
6 Tbsps	mayonnaise, light
1 tsp	mustard
1/2 tsp	salt
1/4 tsp	black pepper
1/4 tsp	dill weed, dried

Wash potatoes, cut in half, and place them in cold water in a saucepan.

Cook covered over medium heat for 25 to 30 minutes or until tender.

Drain and dice potatoes when cool.

Add vegetables and egg to potatoes and toss.

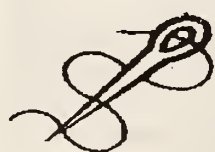
Blend together mayonnaise, mustard, salt, pepper, and dill weed.

Pour dressing over potato mixture and stir gently to coat evenly.

Chill for at least one hour before serving.

Makes 10 servings. Serving size: ? cup

Calories	98
Fat	2 g
Saturated Fat	less than 1 g
Cholesterol	21 mg
Sodium	212 mg



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Faith and Fitness

The Status of Our Health

"Was Jesus Tempted to Overeat?"

By Charolette H. Leach, BS. M. S.

Family Get-togethers, Church Fellowships, Office Parties, Banquets . . . All of these gatherings equate to food, food, and more food. The season of cele-



Charolette Leach

bration is upon us and our history and tradition says that we are to celebrate with food. This fact does not cause a problem if we are using discipline and will power concerning what we serve, how we cook what we serve, and what and how much we eat. We must be real, and accept the fact that the major chronic diseases, namely heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, and diabetes that are prevalent in the African American population are linked to two factors, improper nutrition and inadequate physical activity.

I recently spoke with a parishioner who had decided that she would work hard to lose five pounds before Thanksgiving, so that she could balance out her weight gain during the holidays. There is a positive aspect to her approach, namely that she admits that she will probably gain weight during the holiday season and should plan to do something to counteract it. Let me suggest that a more appropriate approach might be to develop a plan to handle the temptation to overeat, and to incorporate increased physical activity to insure that weight is not gained.

The more conversations that I have with persons from my church and others, the more convinced I am of the fact that many of us lack discipline in this area. But I see evidence that persons who may lack discipline with regard to caring for their health by making changes in their diet and becoming physically active, may be very disciplined in other areas of their lives. This is a plus, because these per-

sons have proven that discipline is something that they possess and can accomplish. It is quite possible that these persons have not come to the realization of the importance of this area of discipline. My prayer is that the importance will be seen, acknowledged, and acted upon before serious health issues arise.

When we consider discipline, our perfect example is in the life of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I imagine that Jesus was disciplined in every aspect of his life. We know, for example that he had a very discipline prayer life and that he arose early in the morning to spend time with God. We can use him as our example with regard to our prayer life. As we struggle with the temptation to overeat, do you think that Jesus was ever tempted to overeat?

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15

This scripture insures us that Jesus in some way felt every temptation that we have felt or will feel. I believe that this is why it was so crucial for Jesus to walk this earth as a human being.

Jesus was tempted and shows us how to handle temptation when he was led into the wilderness.

And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Matthews 4:3-4

In this instance, since Jesus had fasted for 40 days, we can easily say that if he had succumbed to the temptation for bread that we would have easily understood. The important issue of this temptation is priority. Jesus was obviously hungry, but his spiritual stance and overcoming the tempter took precedence. We have many examples of Jesus eating in the Bible, but I believe that Jesus looked to food simply as a way to fuel his physical body to have energy to do the will of God. When considering the gatherings where food was served, Jesus never had

the focus on food. Jesus always focused on meeting the needs of the people.

We must strive to get to a place of using food as God intended and as Jesus did, to fuel our bodies to have energy to do God's will. We sometimes use food as the answer to a lot of questions, when food is not really the answer. I feel bored, what should I do? I must be hungry. I feel depressed, what should I do? Some food will cheer me up. I feel lonely, what should I do? Food will be my companion. I feel anxious, what should I do? I must need something to eat.

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

When we look to food as the inappropriate answer and allow it to be more than what God intended, we can boldly pray for help in our time of need.

Unfortunately, at this time of the year, the problems that many of us have in this area are escalated because of the busyness of the season and all of the functions that we attend which are centered around food. Following are some suggestions to help with staying on track with regard to taking care of your health through the holiday season and beyond. Use some of these suggestions, as you pray for strength to do what is right for your health. **Have a Joyous and Safe Holiday Season! Be Blessed!**

Preparing food for your family, your

congregation, or for guests:

- Make changes to recipe ingredients to lower the fat content. (Use unsweetened applesauce instead of oil, use evaporated milk instead of cream)
- Use vegetable juices for basting, instead of fat
- Make fruits and vegetables a primary part of the menu
- Use whole grains to prepare side dishes
- Eliminate one high-fat dish from the menu you normally serve

At the Gathering:

- Do not arrive famished, eat something light and filling before you arrive
- Choose the most nutritious items first
- Take small portions and be selective
- Allow yourself one or two pieces of high fat food
- Do not allow the food to be the focus of the gathering, take time to have a conversation with people you do not know

Other Suggestions:

- Collect the money that your group would spend for a holiday luncheon and donate it to a worthwhile charity instead
- Plan a walk or other active outing for your family or group
- Take steps to maintain your physical activity program

Reduce the Risks of Flu and Pneumonia

The "influenza season" in the US is from November through April. Influenza can cause fever, cough, chills, sore throat, headache, and muscle aches. People of any age can get influenza. Influenza causes thousands of deaths each year, mostly among the elderly.

For persons with diabetes, getting the flu can mean more than aches and pains. It can mean being sick longer, going to the hospital, as well as dying. The risks are even higher for persons with other illnesses, such as heart disease and kidney disease, in addition to diabetes. About 50 percent of persons with diabetes do not get an annual flu shot.

People with diabetes are also at high risk of developing pneumonia. Pneumococcal disease kills more people in the United States each year than all other vaccine-preventable diseases combined. Anyone can get pneumococcal disease. However, some people are at greater risk from the disease, such as persons with diabetes, people 65 and older, the very young, and people with such health problems as alcoholism, heart or lung disease, kidney failure, diabetes, HIV infection, and certain types of cancer.

Reduce the risks from flu and pneumococcal pneumonia, the cause of the most common form of severe pneumonia. Contact your doctor, healthcare provider or local health department for dates, times and places where flu vaccines are given. Both flu and pneumococcal vaccines are covered by Medicare, Part B. **Make sure to talk to your doctor before getting vaccinated.**

For further information, you may contact:

- Phillip Tarte, NC Diabetes Prevention and Control Unit, NC Division of Health Services - (919) 715-8180
- Your local health department
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - (800) 232-2522 and/or <http://www.cdc.gov/nip>

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Case Stories: Patients and their Physicians discuss their cancer and their cures

Patient: Reverend Thomas L. Walker – Pastor, Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, North Carolina

Physician: Dr. Jerrold Sharkey, MD, FACS – Urology Health Center, Tampa, Florida



Rev. Thomas Walker

Walker's own words, his mission is an "evangelism of health", in particular, testimony to the truth about prostate cancer and its threat to the survival of men and

An Evangelist for TheraSeed®

It just might be that God has chosen Reverend Thomas Walker for a different kind of ministry, has called him to battle a different kind of devil. In Reverend

their families.

Consider what has come to pass: Reverend Walker's Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church ministers to residents of North Carolina's Edgecombe and Nash counties, which have a prostate cancer rate nearly 10 times the U. S. average. He was diagnosed, then cured of prostate cancer at age 47. His recording of "One Day At a Time" resulted in a "gold album" and calls to appear at revivals across the United States where he never fails to spend a session with men on prostate cancer. He has even written a highly acclaimed book, which he is readying for a second printing, Brother to Brother: You Don't Have to Die with Prostate Cancer.

Denial and self-doctoring

Reverend Walker reacted to the news of cancer typical of many men diagnosed with the disease. "Is it true? Could the doctor have made a mistake? The doctors say this is a slow growing cancer, maybe I can out-manuever it. Maybe I can

reverse the process of these 'out-of-control' cells called cancer." Reverend Walker embarked on a crusade to "fix" his cancer consistent with a man of his commitment and determination.

"I wasn't ready to give myself over to conventional medical procedures. He complemented an initial 10-day fast followed by a diet of fruit and vegetable juices with a rigid exercise program and long periods of lying in the sun. "I tried every nutritional remedy I could find." But while his health improved otherwise, his regimen aggravated his cancer. In a matter of three months, his PSA rose from 5.4 to 9.5. "I thank God," he recalled, "that I quit while I was ahead."

When Reverend Walker did seek medical advice, an urologist recommended radical prostatectomy. But the prospect of being incontinent and impotent for the rest of his life gave him pause. He also rejected external beam radiation in light of the likely side effects: diarrhea, urinary retention, and inflammation of the bladder, penis and scrotum. A second opinion produced more urging to undergo surgery. His PSA was already high, and he was told, likely to advance quickly given his young age. A third urologist visit was even more discomfiting: "he said that if I didn't get the surgery, I would be dead before age 55."

His "persistent, caring physician", urologist Dr. Joseph Whisnant finally moved Reverend Walker to action with a letter expressing his grave concern over his "paralysis of analysis", and subsequently, in another of seemingly endless series of meetings with Reverend Walker, information about brachytherapy.

"Bingo!!!" wrote Reverend Walker in his book. His next referral was to a radiation oncologist, who referred him to another urologist. But this time it was Dr. Jerrold Sharkey.

"As a doctor who performs both surgeries and brachytherapies, I am infuriated when I hear doctors with biases towards surgery," he continued. "They neither offer nor explain the minimally invasive option of brachytherapy. And they overestimate the cure rates and understate the risk of complications with surgery."

"We found no sign of cancer."

Reverend Walker's recollections following his treatment are documented in his book.

"Barring slight soreness, most of which resulted from the catheterization, I felt great." A year later at a follow-up visit, Reverend Walker felt even better as a 17-point biopsy, a most thorough examination, yielded a single declaration from

Dr. Sharkey: "We found no sign of cancer."

Six years later, Reverend Walker is cancer free and a man of God on a mission of health. He has worked with the American Cancer Society, the National Prostate Cancer Coalition and other health organizations to build awareness of the threat of prostate cancer. In revival across the country and around the world, he reserves an evening to meet with men to discuss the need for screening and his 'miraculous cure'. At home, he talks about prostate cancer from the pulpit and on his daily television program, "Making a Difference in Your Life". He works with the county health departments and holds annual prostate screenings with the local urology center.

"Our message is that you do need to get yourself checked, first of all, and second, that you do need to know the options," he stressed. "You do need to understand that prostate cancer can be treated, and that the treatment doesn't have to be worse than the disease."

TheraSeed® at a glance

Independent studies demonstrate TheraSeed® is effective:

- TheraSeed® is clinically effective for prostate cancer patients regardless of Gleason score. (Palladium-103 Brachytherapy for Prostate Carcinoma, John C. Blasko, et. Al., Seattle Prostate Institute, International Journal Radiation Oncology Biological Physicists, Vol. 46, No. 4, 2000)

- TheraSeed® boasts a significantly lower incidence of long-term complications, including incontinence and impotence, than surgery. (Long-term Complications with Prostate Implants: Iodine-125 vs. Palladium-103, Richard E. Peschel, et. Al., Yale University School of Medicine, Radiation Oncology Investigations, Vol. 7, No. 5, 1999)

For copies of these studies, visit the TheraSeed® website at www.Theraseed.com, and click "studies". Or call the Prostate Cancer Information Center at 1-800-458-4372.

COLLEGE DAY FAIR

Sponsored by First Baptist Church and Fayetteville State University

First Baptist Church
302 Moore Street
Downtown Fayetteville



Saturday, December 14, 2002
10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

ALL AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & THEIR PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

We have invited 58 colleges and universities from six states to be available just for you! Take advantage of this opportunity to talk with representatives from colleges and universities about their respective institutions! First hand information! In one convenient location! Financial Aid Workshops will be available.

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For more information, Contact: Mrs. Ruth Smith @ (910) 483-6505 or Ms. Nikki Massey @ (910) 675-1172.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



The ISM Needs Your Support for a Special Ministry Initiative

I want to invite all GBSC churches to join in supporting a special ministry that the Holy Spirit has birthed at the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, North Carolina, where I serve as the Supervisory Chaplain/Pastor. This correctional complex has four institutions, with an inmate population of over 3,000 souls. My vision statement says:

"OUR VISION IS REACHING PERSONS INCARCERATED OR VICTIMIZED BY CRIME, THUS BRING RECONCILIATION BETWEEN GOD AND NEIGHBOR AND PROMOTING RESTORATION WITH FAMILY AND SOCIETY."

I believe the ISM is a cutting edge arm of the GBSC and we are seeking to bring innovative approaches to responding to the crime and incarceration crisis in this state. Therefore, on March 3, 2002, the Holy Spirit led me to call the Christian men at FCC Butner to come together as local body of Christians under the unified banner of the Cross of Christ Church. Presently, this embryonic church has been growing and on September 27, 2002, during the 2nd Annual Crime and Incarceration Conference held at FCC Butner, representatives from the GBSC worshipped for the first time with the Cross of Christ Church at the FCC Chapel of Faith. This was the beginning of the birthing of this special church plant within the prison. The mission of Cross of Christ Church is to reach, reconcile, and restore lives impacted by crime and incarceration. The men of this church are being trained in biblical discipleship to

fulfill the Great Commission within the prison to others who are incarcerated. This ministry model is essential to the ISM objectives and goals. I am praying this church model of prison ministry will be embraced throughout the state of North Carolina in our state prisons as well.

Therefore, the ISM needs your prayers and financial support in 2003. The year 2003 will be the year this embryonic church plant will be birthed into the GBSC church family. GBSC churches can be supportive by donating any church items no longer used or needed that would be helpful in prison. Bibles that are large print and in modern translations are much needed. Bible reference books, concordances, lecterns, choir robes, etc. **ALL DONATIONS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT SHOULD BE SENT TO THE GBSC HEADQUARTERS IN RALEIGH, N.C. AND DESIGNATED FOR "PRISON MINISTRY" AT 603 S. WILMINGTON STREET, RALEIGH, NC 27601. WEBSITE - WWW.GBSC.ORG.**

The year 2003 will be a year of a new and special work of the Holy Spirit emerging from behind prison walls because these times demand a new approach for the challenges of the 21st century. Remember to pray for the Cross of Christ Church!

Contact Information

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Supervisory Chaplain/Pastor
Office Tel. (919) 575-3900, ext. 6203
Email H - mrsmithgbsc@aol.com / O - mrsmith@bop.gov

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Paul Bridges, Coordinator of Aftercare Ministries
Associate Minister - First Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
Carolyn Brown, Coordinator of Aftercare Ministries

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Laura Johnson, Coordinator of Victim Ministries
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Leonard Shadding, Coordinator of Victim Services
Member - First African Baptist Church, Goldsboro, NC
Michael Pope, Coordinator At-Risk Youth Ministries
Associate Minister - Oak City Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC
Wavey B. Williams, Coordinator of At-Risk Youth Ministries
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ECCLESIASTES 3:4 "... AND A TIME TO LAUGH..."



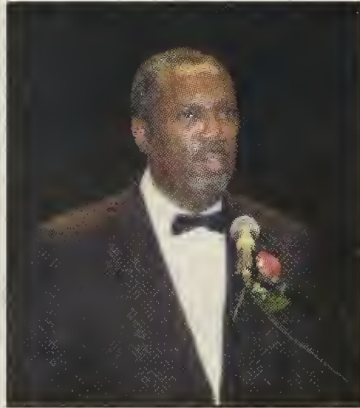
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*Psalms 46:10 "Be Still and Know That I am God"
"He's More God Than I Ever Need"*

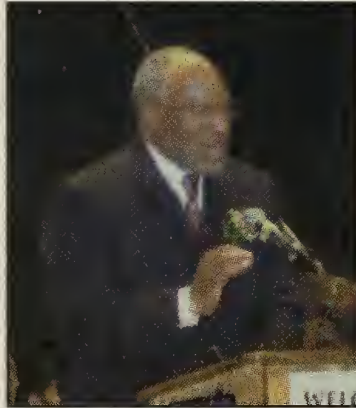
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Dr. David E. Goatley, Dr. C.R. Edwards



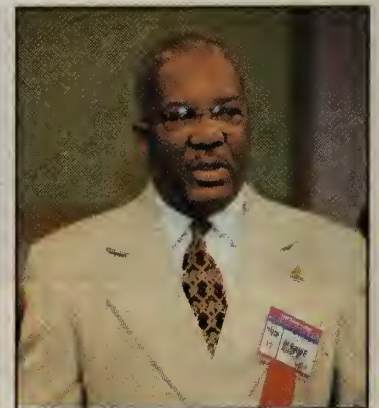
Dr. Charles Bullock, Dr. N.T. Davis



Rev. Haywood Gray



Rev. J.C. Harris



Dr. David Forbes

135th Year Annual Highlights



Dr. Charles Bullock



Dr. Anita Holmes



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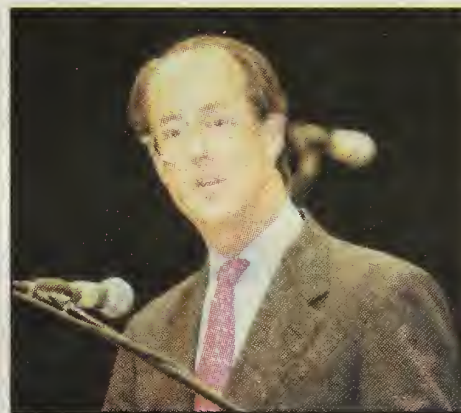
Dr. John Grant



Rev. Ricky Banks



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Mr. Erskine Bowles



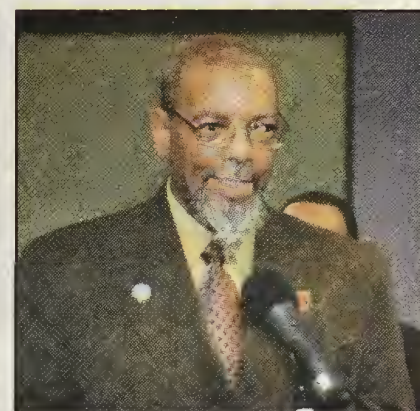
Mrs. Diane Newell



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135th Year Annual Highlights



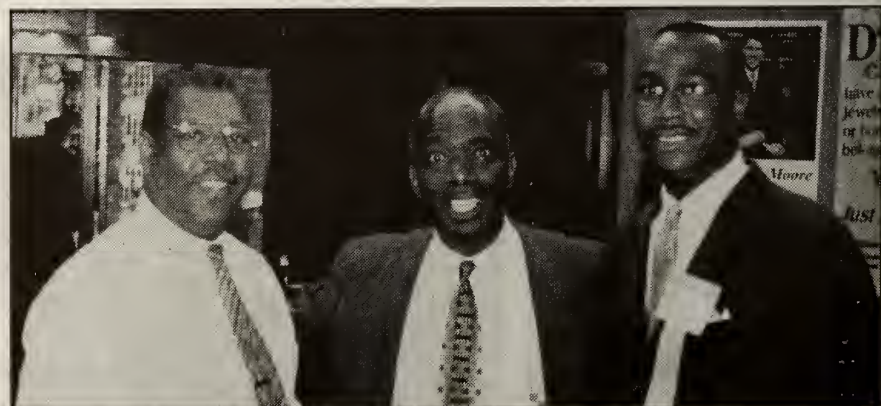
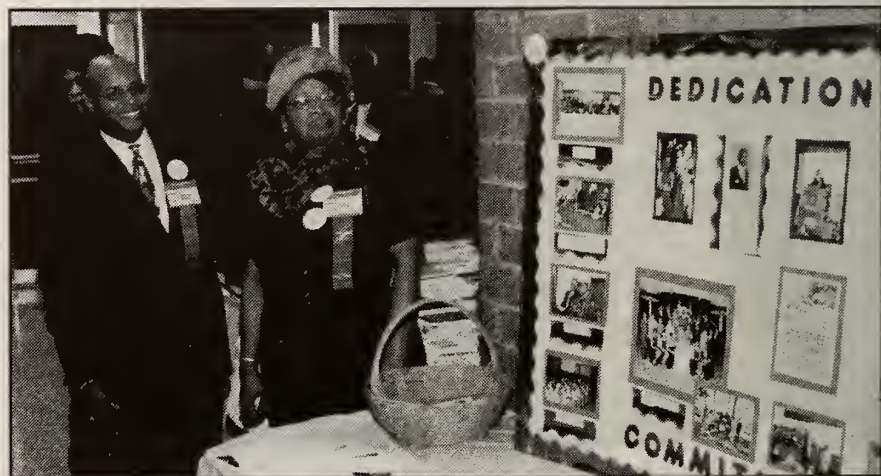
Dr. Perkins, Dr. Fuller



Dr. Sidney Locks



Rev. F.O. Bass



Rev. Charles Walton, Mr. Terry Johnson, Rev. Reginald Wells



JAVE

Birthday: December 16, 1990

Introducing Jave...

Jave is a very affectionate child who enjoys being read to, listening to music or his Nintendo, and listening to cartoons. He likes holding his toys, such as his battery-operated guitar. Jave loves to be held

and talked to.

Jave is blind and confined to a wheelchair. He is diagnosed as Unspecified Mental Retardation with seizure disorder and asthma. Jave has extreme difficulty chewing and swallowing anything that is not cut up into very tiny pieces. Jave attends an ungraded classroom at school where he receives occupational therapy to help him chew and swallow better, as well as physical therapy. Birthday: December 16, 1990

A Family for Jave...

Jave has extensive disabilities and caring for him is both physically and emotionally demanding. It is recommended that Jave's adoptive family be aware of and desire the challenges his care presents, as well as recognize and value his strengths. Jave will need to have continued contact with his foster mother, as she is the only family he has ever known. (NC #060-549)

Introducing Keisha...

Keisha is a cute little girl with a beautiful smile and playful personality. She loves to read and is a big fan of the Harry



KEISHA

Birthday: January 9, 1990

Potter series. Keisha also likes to play with her Barbie dolls and has quite an extensive collection. She says her favorite color is Carolina Blue and her favorite food is vanilla or Oreo Cookie ice cream.

Keisha does well in school, but she

much prefers the socialization part to the academics. She has made a great deal of progress with her counseling that is helping her understand and accept her feelings from past experiences, as well as grief and separation. Keisha is a sensitive girl with a strong sense of fairness, which she often perceives as equally divided adult attention. Birthday: January 9, 1990

A Family for Keisha...

Keisha is very attached to her foster parent and is a little hesitant about adoption, but she is willing to meet and talk with prospective adoptive families. Because she requires a great deal of attention, Keisha prefers to be the only child in the family. She would benefit from a parent that will enjoy spending lots of one-on-one time with her, encouraging her personal growth and supporting her progress. (NC #032-646)

For more information on these children or adoption in general, call the NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care toll-free hotline at 1-877-NCKIDS-1 (1-877-625-4371).

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry Hosts Eastern Conference

By Earl Horton
Director of Public Relations
GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry held its Eastern Conference on October 12th at Sycamore Hill Baptist Church in Greenville, NC, where the

Reverend Dr. Howard Parker serves as pastor.

This conference was made special due to the large attendance of the Greenville Area Pastors. They were from different faiths and came together to learn more about adoption and

Dr. Earl Horton

foster care. Also, representatives from the various county departments of social services and private agencies attended the conference to give more knowledge about children in the state welfare system.

Dr. Dorothy Demby-Paige, project director of GBSC/Bridges Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, presided over the conference and made sure that everyone who attended the conference did not leave with any doubts about adoption and foster care of African American children. The GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry

Staff consisted of the Reverend Anthonette Wright (Director of Church Relations), Earl Horton (Director of Public Relations) and Jo-Ellen Paige (Field Director) who made presentations about the outreach of the ministries' efforts of recruiting families in the African American churches. The pastors were very concerned of identifying families in their congregations to adopt or foster children.

Kim Moody, Pitt County DSS Social Worker gave a presentation with help from her daughter to explain briefly about the MAPP (Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting) training classes that potential families must take to be considered for adopting or foster children. NCKIDS was also presented on the follow up procedures for those families that have shown interest of opening their home to a loving child.

The Reverend G. I. Allison, GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Committee Chairman, delivered a wonderful address to the pastors, social workers, volunteers, and potential families about the need for adoption and foster care.

At the conclusion of Reverend Allison's speech, Dr. Demby-Paige on behalf of the GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry presented two families certificates of appreciation for the love of adopting children. The first family presented a certificate was Myron and Linda Brown with their son. Mr. Brown gave

some very heartfelt words about how important it was to adopt a child into their home and how blessed his wife and he were of becoming parents to their son. Darryl and Lisa White was the second family that was presented a certificate of appreciation. They will soon become the parents of an infant baby. The Whites also gave words of encouragement of why

adoption was very important to them and the difference they are making to their newborn baby.

This conference was very successful. Next, the ministry will be planning the southern and central conferences for 2003. Please read and stay tuned for future articles in the *Baptist Informer*. ■

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A Message from the Director of Church Relations!

By Rev. Anthonette Wright
Director of Church Relations

GBSC Adoption and Foster Care Ministry
**Attention All African-American
Singles and African-American Couples!**
**Bridge the gap to permanency through
Adoption and Foster Care!**



**Rev. Anthonette
Wright**

According to figures provided by the US Department of Health and Human Services, up to 600,000 men, women and children go homeless each night in the United States. Recent evidence confirms that homelessness among families with children is increasing. A survey of 25 U.S. cities found that 36% of the homeless population are those families with children. Sad to say many of those families and children remain homeless. Many of the children end up in the child welfare system or remain on the streets. Children ranging from infants to teens have been separated from their birth parents or guardians for various reasons. These children come from different socio-economic backgrounds and different ethnic groups. A large number of these children are African-American. Many of these children have been waiting a long time to be adopted. Sometimes the wait is long because the child is older or may be part of a sibling group. The statistics are alarming in North Carolina

alone. Over 9,000 children await a permanent home. The question is, *what are you going to do to help?* **Adoption, Foster Care or volunteering to spread the word; that is how you can help.** To become a foster or adoptive parent is not impossible. You may be an ordinary person who is faced with the everyday challenge of life. You don't have to be rich or live in a big house. You may be married or single but able to provide the basic support, love, or nurture and safety to a deserving child.

We need Pastors to share from their pulpits the need to support this ministry; appoint volunteers to work with us and start adoption and foster care ministries; volunteers to help spread the word about the need for singles and couples in North Carolina to adopt and/or foster care; and we need you to send financial support to State Missions of the General Baptist State Convention in care of the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry. **Without your help our progress is labored; with your help we will make the difference in the life of a child!**

Support this ministry by becoming an adoptive parent or a foster care parent and volunteer to recruit African-American Singles and Couples willing to adopt or foster African-American Children. Please contact me for more information on what you can do to help make a difference in a child's life. You may write me:

**Reverend Anthonette Wright, Director
of Church Relations**
13010 Garden View Lane, Suite 202
Raleigh, North Carolina 27614 or
E-mail me: Nwrightgbsc@aol.com or
telephone me: 919-570-0549.

Update: Adoption and Foster Care

By Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige

The Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2001-2002 can be considered a banner year for us in terms of outreach and the recruitment of potential African-American adoptive and/or foster parents. We give God the glory.

We thank God for His continued blessings as we work in the state, making presentations, providing exhibits, mailing materials to volunteers and responding to telephone calls, e-mails and general correspondence. We have had great success speaking at churches, conferences, and meetings of associations. Spreading the word of the need for adoptive and foster parents of the African-American children, statewide, has been expanded to encompass 70+ of the counties that have children who are in the North Carolina Foster Care System.

We also thank God for those who have partnered with us as we continue to expand our recruitment/referral efforts and ask that you do so more diligently this Fiscal Year, now well underway. It is only through the expanded, continuing collaboration, cooperation, and support that we will be able to realize the successes that we anticipate. The commitment to help make a difference in the lives of our children is growing; thank you for your help.

Again, we must repeat, God continues to bless our efforts. And, as the song goes "Blessings after blessings keep on coming our way", and we continue to give God the glory, the honor and the praise! Please continue to keep our ministry in your prayers.

that person's decision.

EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE is a highly successful interfaith initiative, and we strongly encourage all churches to join us in this special challenge and opportunity. Join the growing number of churches uniting for children. This HELPING AND CARING MINISTRY is being pushed by moderators, conference leaders, pastors, bishops, and assorted church laity. Church missionary departments have been asked to designate this ministry as a primary focus for the year 2002.

Spiritual concerns dominate the daily lives of most Americans. Spirituality in the home, on the job, in the community and in social circles increased significantly after 9/11/01. Surprisingly, 58% of workers with post graduate degrees – the highest levels of education – were most likely to value spirituality in the workplace. "When you do this for the lease of these, you do so unto Me". This is our calling. Our spirituality shows abundantly as we work to find permanent homes for the "least of these", our children. All of the work is important. You help greatly when you advocate for us in our efforts, when you volunteer to help or to continue to help spread the word of the need, when you refer serious, committed singles or couples to us or when you open your heart and home to a child.

The Holiday Season is upon us. We get caught up in the hopes and desires of home and family. The love and warmth of the season is unquestionably the best the whole year through. But this is only true when have home, family and loving surroundings to look forward to. The joy and happiness of the season is not the way it should be if we cannot be a part of a "real family" during this time. Children who have been removed from their familiar surroundings need our love and attention all of the time but especially when seasons like Thanksgiving and Christmas or other special days come around. Let's get caught up in the season, but let us try to include a misplace child in our plans.

For additional information, please call, write or e-mail us! Dr. Dorothy A. Demby-Paige, 2610 Albemarle Avenue, Raleigh, NC, 27610; (919) 231-9774; FAX: (919) 212-3656.

THE EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE PROJECT

The EVERY CHURCH ADOPT ONE initiative continues to gain broad support statewide, among the various faith communities, and again we give God the glory and the praise. We pray that if your church is not yet a part of this effort, you will hesitate no longer to begin this initiative. The children need Us and we need You. It cannot be done if the effort is not a concerted one. Commit to finding one person in your congregation who will seriously consider adoption and/or foster care and ask the congregation to support

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Shaw University 2003 Academic Calendar

SPRING SEMESTER 2003

JANUARY

- 4 Saturday
Residence Halls Open for New Students
- 4-7 Saturday-Tuesday
New Students Orientation
- 5 Sunday
Residence Halls Open for Returning Students (RS)
- 6 Monday
Late Registration, Drop/Add Begins
- 6-7 Monday-Tuesday
Faculty Development Workshop
- 8 Wednesday
Classes Begin
- 15 Tuesday
Martin Luther King, Jr., Commemorative Service
- 18 Saturday
Add Ends/Last Day to Drop without Grade of "W"
- 20 Monday
Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday

FEBRUARY

- 2-5 Sunday-Wednesday
Religious Emphasis Week
- 4 Tuesday
Last Day to Withdraw from University & Get Partial Refund

MARCH

- 12-14 Wednesday-Friday
Mid-Semester Progress Conferences
- 16 Sunday
Thomas J. Boyd Sunday
- 17 Monday
Last Day to Withdraw from Course
- 17-19 Monday-Wednesday
Minister's Conference
- 19 Wednesday
Academic Advisement/Fall Semester Registration Begins
- 22-30 Friday-Sunday
Spring Break
- 31 Monday
Classes Resume

APRIL

- 1 Tuesday
Deadline for Application for Summer Degree, Fall Registration Ends

- 7 Monday
Summer School Registration Begins
- 8 Tuesday
Faculty Appreciation Day
- 18-21 Friday-Monday
Easter Break
- 22 Tuesday
Classes Resume
- 24 Thursday
University Awards Day
- 30 Wednesday
Last Day of Classes, Last Day to Remove Incompletes from Fall, Last Day to Withdraw from the University

MAY

- 1-3 Thursday-Saturday
Senior Final Examinations, Underclassmen Reading Period
- 4 Sunday
Senior Appreciation Day
- 5-6 Monday-Tuesday
Final Clearance for Seniors
- 5-8 Monday-Friday
Final Examination Period for Non-Seniors
- 9 Friday
Baccalaureate, End of Spring Semester
- 10 Saturday
Commencement
- 11 Sunday
Residence and Dining Halls Close

SUMMER SESSION 2003

JUNE

- 13 Tuesday
Late Registration for Summer School Begins
- 14 Wednesday
Summer Classes Begin
- 20 Tuesday
End Late Registration for Summer School
- 26 Monday
Memorial Day Holiday

JULY

- 21 Saturday
Church Leaders' Conference
- 25 Wednesday
Summer Classes End
- 26-27 Thursday-Friday

Final Examination Period

- 28 Saturday
Summer School Ends
- 29 Sunday
Residence Halls Close
- 30 Monday
Deadline for Application for Fall Degree

FALL SESSION 2003

AUGUST

- 15 Friday
Residence Halls Open for New Students
Residence Halls Open for Returning Students
- 15&18 Friday & Monday
Faculty/Staff School Opening
- 16-19 Saturday-Tuesday
New Student Orientation Registration
- 18-20 Monday-Wednesday
Late Registration/Fiscal Clearance/Returning Students
- 21 Thursday
Classes Begin

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Monday
Labor Day Holiday
- 2 Tuesday
Classes Resume
- 4 Thursday
Add Ends/Last Day to Drop Without Adding a Grade of "W"
- 18 Thursday
Fall Convocation
- 19 Friday
Last Day to Withdraw from University and Receive a Partial Refund

OCTOBER

- 1 Wednesday
Deadline for Application for Spring
- 5-7 Sunday-Tuesday
Bessie Boyd Holman Lecture Series on Ethics & Values
- 6-8 Monday-Wednesday
Mid Semester Progress Conferences
- 10 Friday
Last Day to Withdraw from a Course
- 10 Friday
Coronation of Miss Shaw University
- 10-12 Friday-Sunday
Parent's Weekend
- 13-17 Monday-Friday
Academic Advisement
- 18 Saturday
Spring Registration Begins
- 27-11/2 Monday-Sunday
Homecoming Week

NOVEMBER

- 27 Thursday
Thanksgiving Holiday
- 30 Sunday
Spring Registration Ends

DECEMBER

- 1 Monday
Classes Resume/Last Day of Classes/Last Day Remove "I" for Spring/Last Day
- 2-5 Tuesday-Friday
Final Examinations
- 6 Saturday
Fall Graduation Exercise
- 6 Saturday
Residence Halls Closed

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Lifeline and Link-Up: Making local phone service affordable for all consumers

By Attorney General Roy Cooper

Access to local telephone service is vital. Imagine if you couldn't pick up the phone and dial 911 in an emergency because you had not been able to pay your entire phone bill. At the request of my office, the North Carolina Utilities Commission has adopted rules that protect consumers from losing their local telephone service because they can't afford to pay what they owe for long distance. As long as you pay the local service charges, your local service cannot be disconnected or interrupted. Even if your phone has already been disconnected due to unpaid bills, you can at least get telephone service restored once you've settled your debts with the local phone company. And you might even qualify for reduced charges.

You may be eligible for discounts on your local telephone service if you receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Food Stamps, Medicaid, Housing Assistance (including Section 8), Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) or Work First Family Assistance. One program, called Link-Up, can cut the cost of telephone installation in half, saving you up to \$30. The other program, Lifeline, could mean as much as \$13.00 per month off your monthly telephone bill.

Lifeline and Link-Up are operated through a joint effort of your local telephone company and the agencies that provide benefits and assistance to North Carolinians. In order to take advantage of these telephone programs, your telephone service must be established in the name of the person in your home who receives these benefits.

Here is how qualified customers can apply for Lifeline and Link-Up:

If you do not currently have telephone service

- Contact your local telephone company, place your order for service and ask them to mail you a Lifeline/Link-Up application form.

- Depending on the type of benefits you receive, take the form to your social worker at the Department of Social Services, your local representative at Social Security or your Housing Authority/Section 8 official for approval. The agency will then mail the completed form to the telephone company.

- The Link-Up discount will appear on your first local telephone bill. However, if you request installation before the telephone company has received your approved form, the Link-Up credit will not apply and you will have to pay the full installation charge. Likewise, the Lifeline discount on your monthly local telephone charge does not begin until the telephone company receives the necessary paperwork.

If you already have telephone service

- Depending on the type of benefits you receive, contact your social worker, local Social Security representative, or housing official and have them complete the Lifeline form and mail it to your telephone company.

- Your discount begins when the telephone company receives the approved form.

What if my telephone was disconnected due to unpaid long distance calls?

- Even if your telephone service has been disconnected because of unpaid long distance bills, you likely still qualify for local service through the Lifeline/Link-Up programs. You can reestablish local service by paying the past due balance owed for local service only. However, you are still responsible for the other charges, unless they are disputed, and you may be denied access to toll and long distance or other non-local services until your debt is paid.

Attorney General Roy Cooper and his staff want consumers to know that they have choices when it comes to getting local phone service. We are here to be of service when you need us, but through consumer education efforts like these columns we hope to help consumers avoid problems from the start.

Ten Tips To Reduce Auto Teen Accidents

Submitted by Carol J. Smith, Managing Editor

Primarily due to their inexperience behind the wheel, teenage drivers are much more likely than adults to get into accidents. Fortunately, there are things parents can do to help keep their teens safe on the road, while boosting their own peace of mind.



Carol Smith

Ten tips for parents to help reduce accidents among their teen drivers:

Limit night driving. Many teen car crashes take place between 9 p.m. and 12 midnight. Beginning drivers should be restricted to driving during the day initially.

Keep it slow and safe for starters. Remember that teens need to stay away from fast-moving, high-volume traffic until they feel comfortable in such situations.

Train for poor weather conditions. Limit your teen's driving during periods of bad weather until the teen demonstrates a high level of competence and confidence.

Restrict cell phones to emergency use only. Don't let bad habits begin. Provide your young teen

with a cell phone for the car for emergency situations only.

Choose safe vehicles for your children. Proper attention to the vehicle a teen drives is as important as his or her actual driving. Avoid small cars, trucks and sport utility vehicles. Look for automobiles with high safety ratings (air bags, crumple zones, etc.)

Remember you are a role model. New drivers learn a lot by example, so practice safe driving. Teens with poor driving records often reflect the behavior of parents with poor driving records.

Supervise as much practice driving as possible. Parents should take an active role in the teenager's driving practice. Make a firm schedule to supervise your future driver and stick to it.

Be firm about safety belt use. Require that your teenagers wear safety belts at all times – no exceptions.

Discuss realistic consequences of drug and alcohol use. Let them hear it from you that alcohol and drug use is totally unacceptable when driving.

Restrict passengers. Having more passengers in a car increases the chance of greater risk-taking, because of greater peer pressure and because it leads to greater distractions.



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Thank You!

Reverend Eric Harris
J.J. Johnson Camp Superintendent

To GBSC, WBH&FM
FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Thank you for all your prayers and words of encouragement throughout the year. A special *thank you* goes out to the following: The New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Apex, Pastor Marcus V. Ingram for donating a brand new sound system for the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Chapel; the Johnston Piney Grove Baptist Church, Pastor Theodore Breeden for the new ice machine and other valuable support given throughout the year.

To Bethlehem Baptist Church, Laurinburg, Jones Chapel, Laurinburg, Star of Bethlehem, Laurinburg, Bright Hopewell, Carolina Park First Baptist, St. Johns of Aberdeen, Pastor Jimmy Gilchrist, Shiloh, Maxton, Pastor H. E.

Edwards, Clarks Grove Baptist Church of Mt. Gilead, Pee Dee Association, St. Johns Association, a special *thank you* for all your support.

To the following pastors, J. C. McLean, Robert Williams, Stanley Webster, Garland Pierce and T. R. Davis, John McQueen, *thank you* for your support and counsel. To all auxiliary presidents and bible camp workers for the marvelous activities you participated in for the cause of Christ. A special *thank you* to Dr. Priscilla Brodie and Dr. Archie D. Logan for all their advice and counsel. There were many churches that gave support that I am aware of, because their children came and sang praises, prayed prayers, read scriptures and studied God's word. So if your particular fellowship was not mentioned, please accept my humble apology and keep praying on our behalf.

Current Annual Events

During the course of the year, the Conventional Family sponsors different ministries at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. Among these are the following:

- ◆ Vacation Bible School (GBSC) – March
- ◆ Ministers' Wives Retreat (WBSC) – May
- ◆ Laymen's League Mini-Skills Retreat (GBSC) – May
- ◆ Leadership Training Conference (GBSC) – June
- ◆ Youth Bible Camp (WBSC) – June
- ◆ Laymen's League Boy's Summer Retreat (GBSC) – July
- ◆ Laymen's League Scouting Jamboree (GBSC) – August
- ◆ Laymen's League Men's Retreat (GBSC) – September
- ◆ North Carolina Branch of the 9th and 10th Calvary (Buffalo Soldiers) – October
- ◆ Usher's Retreat/Workshop (GBSC) – November
- ◆ Laymen's League Planning Session – December

The campus is available year round for meetings, weddings, banquets, family reunions, and other activities. Contact Eric Harris for the policies and procedures regarding each type of event.

Send Applications & Funds to:
General Baptist State Convention
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

(Make checks payable to J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly)

Sources: "1974" Brochure and the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Guide And Handbook (1985).

CHRISTMAS AT LAUREL HILL

In December we want to have our first annual Christmas at Laurel Hill. We are looking for churches and organizations to donate toys and gifts. Please send gifts to P. O. Box 365, Laurel Hill, NC 28351, or bring them to the camp site. Contact Eric Harris at (910) 462-2444.

J.J. JOHNSON BAPTIST ASSEMBLY INFORMATION

The Site:

The J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly is a tract of land comprising seventy-five (75) or more acres, much of which is covered with a mixture of North Carolina Pine, red and white oak trees. The location of the Baptist Assembly is on more than 75 rolling acres in Laurel Hill, North Carolina in Scotland County.

In 1967, approximately two-thirds of the acreage was donated by Dr. and Mrs. Joy J. Johnson and their daughter, Deborah (Mrs. Alexander Killiens). Additional acres were purchased by the Woman's Convention and General Baptist State Convention.

Our Purpose:

The purpose of the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill is to provide a setting that is Christian in its atmosphere and is conducive to learning, worship, and meeting the needs of all individuals whom we serve. It seeks to provide opportunities for everyone to learn habits of good citizenship, and it provides at the same time opportunities to reach a maximum potential for Christian fellowship and fun experiences through democratic ideals and living.

The facility exists for the exclusive use by religious groups and/or organizations with similar aims regardless of ethnic origin.

Meeting Facilities:

At the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, there are various meeting facilities available. Listed below are the seating capacity (theater style) and lodging:

- ◆ Rowan Association Chapel Seating Capacity: 300-400
- ◆ Home Lodge Seating Capacity: 20-25, Sleeps 12
- ◆ Alston Lodge Seating Capacity: 100, Sleeps 64
- ◆ Lumber Bridge Association Lodge Seating Capacity: 100, Sleeps 64
- ◆ Brown Assembly Dining Hall Seating Capacity: 200 (Cafeteria Style)

Individuals should bring their own linen, blankets, soap and other toiletries for the lodging facilities.

"And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south." Psalm 107:3

Recreation

If people are interested in recreation, the following activities are available:

- ◆ Softball*
- ◆ Basketball*
- ◆ Swimming
- ◆ Croquet*
- ◆ Horse Shoes*
- ◆ Volleyball*
- ◆ Hiking

*You will need to provide your own recreation equipment.

Food Service

Meals are available upon request for all activities held at the site, including breaks, receptions, luncheons and banquets. Prices are discussed upon request. Also, you may provide your own meals.

Information & Reservations

For Information and Applications contact:

Eric Harris, Acting Superintendent

P. O. Box 365

Laurel Hill, NC 28351

Telephone: (910) 462-2444 / Fax: (910) 462-3440

CLASSIFIEDS

(PLEASE CONTACT CHURCHES FOR SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS SOME REQUIRE 3 OR MORE YEARS PASTORAL EXPERIENCE, SEMINARY TRAINING, MISSIONARY BAPTIST ORDINATION, MUSICAL SKILLS) (FOR SPECIFIC CHURCH QUALIFICATIONS CONTACT THE PULPIT COMMITTEE)

PASTORS

MORRIS STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, Charleston, SC: seeks to fill the position of Assistant Pastor for the Church. The applicant must be of irreproachable Christian character and possess leadership skills. Applicants must have a Bachelor of Arts degree and additional theological studies. Preference will be given to applicants with prior experience as a pastor or assistant pastor in a Baptist Church. The applicant will be required to demonstrate competency in teaching and preaching and to perform other functions related to the pastorate.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of application with resume, references and credentials on or before **November 27, 2002** to: Morris Street Baptist Church Attention: Search Committee Irving Robinson, Vice-Chairman 25 Morris Street Charleston, SC 29403

METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH Rocky Mount, NC: currently accepting resumes from ministers interested in serving as Pastor of the church. Metropolitan Baptist Church was founded in May 1965 and recently celebrated its 37th anniversary. The congregation has only had 3 pastors in its history, with the Pastor Emeritus serving for 25 years prior to retiring. The most recent pastor served for five years. The church has a membership of 500 members. Metropolitan Baptist Church is located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, which is located 45 miles east of Raleigh, North Carolina. Rocky Mount is considered a regional center

for eastern North Carolina with a population of 58,000. The racial makeup is 57 percent African-American. The congregation is seeking an ordained missionary Baptist minister with 5 to 10 years experience as a senior pastor or associate pastor. The educational background of the candidate should include an undergraduate degree in theology or related area of study, however, a Masters of Divinity is preferred. Successful candidates should possess ability to work with all age groups and auxiliaries in the church, possess excellent communication skills, and possess the skills and ability to develop and strengthen the various internal ministries of the church and community outreach programs. Pastor's salaries and benefits are negotiable. The closing date for submitting a resume is January 15, 2003. Please send inquiries and resumes to: Pastor Search Committee, Metropolitan Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1952, Rocky Mount, NC 27801.

MOUNT OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Bayboro, NC:

currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applications should provide the following:

1. A resume
 2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
 3. One business and two personal references (no family references)
- Send information to:
Mayor B. Credle, Deacon Chairman
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
5972 NC Highway 304
Bayboro, NC 28515

OLIVE BRANCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide a resume. Send information to:
The Pulpit Committee
Brother Elonza Joyner, Chairperson
106 Graves Avenue
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
elonzajoybner@hotmail.com

Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Church Clayton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist

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Upcoming Sessions

December 6, 2002
4th Annual Housing Banquet
Raleigh Convention Center
500 Fayetteville Street
Raleigh, NC

January 10, 2003
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Banquet
Raleigh Convention Center
500 Fayetteville Street
Raleigh, NC

January 11, 2003
Women's State Convention
One Day Session
Raleigh Convention Center
500 Fayetteville Street
Raleigh, NC

February 8, 2003
One-Day Session Congress of
Christian Education
Winston-Salem, NC

February 22, 2003
One-Day Session Usher's Convention
Winston-Salem, NC

roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
 2. Personal references
- Send information to:
Oakey Grove Baptist Church
Pulpit Search Committee
Deacon Loomis Hodges, Chairperson
PO Box 2435
Smithfield, NC 27577

MOUNT CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH Elizabeth City, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. The church is located in Hertford County. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A Resume
 2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
 3. Two personal references (no family references)
- Send information to:
Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Search Committee
ATTN: Deacon Eugene White
815 Swains Mill Road
Harrellsville, NC 27942

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, Warrenton, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A Resume
- Send information to:
Brother Alonza Jones, Board Chairman
Pastor Search Committee

Route 2, Box 128
Norlina, NC 27563

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH Thomasville, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. We are affiliated with the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention, interested applicants should provide a resume. Send information to:
Tanya M. Autry, Chairperson
Pastor Search Committee
First Missionary Baptist Church
103 Church Street
Thomasville, NC 27360

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH, Newburgh, NY: currently accepting applications for Senior Pastor with strong Baptist roots. The Committee will provide each candidate with an application packet.
Send request to:
Ebenezer Baptist Church
ATTN: Deacon Milton
Buxton/Confidential
PO Box 248
Newburgh, NY 12551-0248

SHADY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, East Spencer, NC: currently accepting applications for a Pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume
2. at least four references: (2) business (2) personal
3. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination

Send information to:
Shady Grove Baptist Church
ATTN: Clarence A. Jones, Chairperson
PO Box 447
East Spencer, NC 28039

EASTERN STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Tarboro, North Carolina 27886: seeking a pastor.
•He must be experienced
•Well seasoned
•He must live by the word of God
•Willing to teach Sunday school and bible study class
•Must be between the age of 25-55
Please submit resume to:
Pulpit Committee
Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 1677
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886

THE ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH seeks a pastor to serve as its spiritual leader, teacher, counselor and administrator. St. John has a rich legacy of 75 years of service to the city, county, state and country, which suggests the following list of desired characteristics:
•Must be a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.

- Must possess ability to teach, train and coach church officers and auxiliary leaders.
 - Must have the skills and be willing to work with all age groups with particular emphasis on the spiritual growth and development of our youth.
 - Must have the prerequisite administrative skills, which include the ability to articulate, negotiate and facilitate effectively with a diverse community including educational, business, political, civic and philanthropic communities.
 - Evidence of community awareness and involvement
 - Must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of the Church.
- MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE MUST INCLUDE:**
- Minimum of ten years in the ministry as a licensed, ordained Baptist minister.
 - Terminal masters degree from a recognized accredited seminary or theological institution.
 - Must possess strong and proven administrative skills and experience.
 - Must have a broad knowledge of the Baptist Doctrines, church policies and

PULPIT VACANCY NEW LIGHT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH HALLSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

NEW LIGHT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH IS NOW ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR A PASTOR. OUR WORSHIP SERVICES ARE EACH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Must be a licensed ordained Missionary Baptist Minister.

- Full of Holy Ghost. Led by the Spirit of God in all matters.
- Full of wisdom, knowledge and understand the office of Pastor and performs it according to the scriptures and the needs of the church.
- Must be Association minded.
- Prefer having experience as a Pastor.
- The husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior.
- One that rules his own house, having a good report.
- Knows the doctrine of a Missionary Baptist Church
- Must attend meetings of different auxiliaries in the church to become familiar with the organizations, whenever possible.
- Must visit the sick and shut-in when possible.
- Must attempt to become involved with the various programs that the church participates in outside the home church calendar.

Send resumes and inquiries to:

Deacon Kenneth Bracey
1025 Red Bug Rd.
Hallsboro, North Carolina 28442
910-646-4467

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PASTOR NEEDED

The Pastoral Search Committee of the First Missionary Baptist Church in Smithfield, N.C., is seeking a pastor. It is currently accepting resumes from interested Licensed Ordained Baptist Ministers.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be a Spiritual Baptist Minister
 - a. Ordained Baptist Minister with a strong orientation in Baptist beliefs and doctrines
 - b. A good role model of moral and ethical conduct
2. Must have pastoral experience in the Baptist church
3. Graduate of a university and divinity school preferred
4. Church, family and community oriented with the ability and willingness to teach Bible Study and Baptist Doctrine
5. Strong leadership with an outlook for the future growth and development of the church

The closing date for submitting a resume is January 31, 2003.

Please send inquiries and resumes to:

Dr. Phyllis Ethridge, Chairperson of Pastoral Search Committee
101 Lake Ridge Drive, Smithfield, NC 27577

CLASSIFIEDS

procedures, and willingness to follow the by-laws governing the church.

- Must possess effective oral and written communication skills.
 - Demonstrated financial ability and experience with 1 Million+ budgets
- Interested persons meeting all of the above characteristics and minimum qualifications should submit the following information:
- A resume and letter of interest to include a vision statement as it related to their ministry.
 - Copies of license and ordination certification
 - Proof of completion of ALL accredited theological training
 - Name, address and telephone number of five (5) personal and professional references with no more than three (3) coming from other ministries familiar with your ministry along with audio/video sample of a sermon.

Completed applications will be accepted for the posting period July 22, 2002 — August 23, 2002. Applications postmarked prior to and after the posting period will not be considered. Completed applications should be sent via certified/return receipt mail addressed to:

Mr. Manning Fogan, II, Chair, Pulpit Committee, St. John Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1038, Getzville, New York 14068-1038.

SECOND CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

114 NELSON AVENUE
CHARLOTTE, NC 28216

Second Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a full time pastor to serve as spiritual leader, teacher and counselor for her congregation. Finalist for this position must meet the following qualifications:

- Born-again licensed, ordained minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Knowledge of Baptist doctrine, practices and polity
- BA degree from an accredited institution of higher learning
- Senior Pastor for at least four to five years
- Good administrative and communication skills
- Ability to communicate with all age groups especially the youth
- Leadership experience in developing or administering youth programs and community service programs
- Willingness to affiliate at the national, state and local Baptist conventions

MOUNT PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH

of Raleigh, NC is currently accepting applications for a pastor.

The church is located in Wake County. All interested applicants should provide the following:

- A copy of their resume
- A copy of religious credentials
- Application deadline is December 31, 2002

Send information to:
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church
Pastoral Search Committee
Attn. Deacon Robert E. Wall
10720 Falls of The Neuse Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27614

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MINISTER OF MUSIC

INTRODUCTION:

The position of Minister of Music is a full-time position at First Baptist Church, 101 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. First Baptist Church is a historical black congregation organized as a bi-racial Church at the North Carolina State House (now the Capitol) in 1812. This historical congregation seeks an individual who is willing to grow with its Pastor and his flock. This position requires a music and worship leader who is spiritual and experienced in providing the total awareness of the movement of God's spirit in the assembly of God's people.

PRINCIPAL FUNCTION:

The Minister of Music at First Baptist Church is responsible to the Pastor and is supervised by the Pastor for the development and promotion of the entire music program of First Baptist Church.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The duties and responsibilities of the Minister of Music at First Baptist Church are as follows:

1. Direct the planning, organizing, conducting, and evaluating of a comprehensive music ministry.
2. Supervise the work of paid or volunteer music staff.
3. Cooperate with the church process to enlist and train leaders for the church music ministry, including choir workers, song leaders, and accompanists for the church worship experiences.
4. Lead in planning and promoting a choir program; direct and coordinate the work of choir directors; direct adult, youth, and other choirs as needed.
5. Arrange and provide music for weddings, funerals, special projects, ministries, and other church-related activities upon request.
6. Plan, organize, and promote choir tours, mission trips, camps, festivals, workshops, clinics, and programs for the various choirs.
7. Supervise the maintenance of the music library, materials, supplies, musical instruments, and other equipment.
8. Keep informed on music methods, materials, promotion and administration.
9. Prepare an annual music budget and administer the approved budget.
10. Assist the pastor in planning all services of worship, coordinate the music program with the church calendar and emphases of the church vision.
11. Cooperate with denominational leaders in promoting activities of mutual interest.
12. Perform other duties as assigned by the pastor.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must be a Christian.
2. Must hold music credentials from an accredited college, university, or conservatory, with at least a Bachelor of Music Degree in Sacred Music, Music Performance, or Music Education (Masters Degree or equivalent preferred).
3. Must have a demonstrated ability in Piano and Pipe Organ proficiency, organizational skills, people skills and ability in choral and instrumental conducting.
4. Must be trained in all styles of Baptist worship, liturgy, and hymnody.
5. The ideal candidate will be an enthusiastic professional who has the proven abilities to revitalize the youth and children's choirs.
6. Must possess creativity and the ability to work collaboratively with the Pastor and staff.
7. Flexibility and technical competence are vital.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The person who is selected for this position must be in generally good health, physically mobile, good eyesight and hearing. A complete physical exam and criminal background check are also requirements.

SALARY:

\$44,106.00 - \$65,000.00 per year depending upon qualifications and/or experience.

CLOSING DATE:

Resumes and/or applications, and references must be postmarked by October 15, 2002.

CONTACT:

Mail resumes or applications and references to:

First Baptist Church
ATTN: Mr. Michael A. Shaw
P.O. Box 27771
Raleigh, NC 27611
(919) 832-1649
Email: churchfb@bellsouth.net

and associations.

- Present location within five hours driving time from Charlotte
- Willingness to submit to a police and credit check

Resumes for persons meeting these qualifications should be sent to the Pulpit Search Committee at the address shown above. Resume deadline date is September 19, 2002

UNION GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Youngsville, NC is seeking a church musician. For specific qualifications and duties, please contact Pastor J.C. Sherrod at 919-242-4024. Please send resume or inquiries to
Attn: Rev. J.C. Sherrod
Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 730
Youngsville, NC 27596

FOSTER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH
The Pulpit Search Committee of the Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, is accepting resume for the position of pastor. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- He must possess good moral and ethical conduct, living by Timothy 3:1-1, Titus 1:7-9 and abstain from study activities and inclinations as

those cited in Romans 1:26-27.

- He must have a minimum of three (3) years experience as pastor with demonstrated ability in counseling and supervising all work for the church.
 - He must live in the proximity of the church.
 - He must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach God's word.
 - He must possess a strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist Doctrine, Church Policies, and Practices, and be willing to abide by them.
 - He must have the skills required to work with all age groups, with special emphasis on the youth.
 - He must have the skills required for planning and implementing a vision for spiritual, physical and financial growth of the church. — He must be community oriented, and have strong family values.
 - He must have a minimum of a high school diploma preferably a degree or courses in seminary training from an accredited college or university.
 - He must be willing to attend Sunday School, Prayer Meetings, and teach Bible Study.
- Please send resume to:
Foster Memorial Missionary Baptist Church, 1911 South Church Street
Post Office Box 6317
Rocky Mount, NC 2802-6317
C/O The Pulpit Committee
Trustee Hiawatha Knight

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH P.O. BOX 4182 WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27115

In seeking a pastor we are a 83 years old Baptist church having been led under the pastoral care of only (2) two pastors.

We're seeking a God called, God fearing, born again, Holy Ghost filled, licensed, ordained minister who is concerned about the whole man, body, soul and spirit.

Must have strong missionary baptist roots and be concerned with all areas of the church, having good leadership abilities and skills, both organizational and spiritual.

Must also have a broad knowledge of the Baptist doctrine, church policies and procedures and a willingness to follow the by-laws governing the church.

Good administrative and communication skills with the ability to teach, train church officers and auxiliary leaders. Able to communicate with all aged groups, especially the young.

Must have at least (3) three to (4) four years of pastoral experience.

Willing to submit to strict investigation, police and credit check.

Please respond to the Search Committee of Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 4182, Winston-Salem, NC 28115.

Please send your response by mail.

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04. Burn Up Or Burn Out For God
05. Busted Britches From Straddling The Fence
06. Dangerous Minds
07. Don't Even Think About It
08. Fired Up By The Holy Ghost
09. Are You Full Of The Stuff
10. Let's Get On Board
11. God Picked Me To Be On His Side
12. Grace On The Race
13. Grow Up Or Blow Up
14. Hang In There
15. He Lifted Me Up Out Of The Miry Clay
16. Look Where The Lord Has Brought Me From
17. If My People
18. We Can Do It For A New Day Has Come
19. I Know What Prayer Can Do
20. Put Some Clothes On Child
21. A Right Thing In A Wrong Time
22. The Man Who Had Everything But The Right Thing
23. Soap For The Soul
24. Stay On The Lord's Side
25. If You Take One Step He'll Take Two
26. Stepping In Your Own Mess
27. I Can't Lose With The Stuff I Use
28. You Can't Touch This
29. Warm In A Cold Situation
30. That's The Way He Died But That's Not The End Of The Story
31. What You See Is What You Get
32. What's Faith Got To Do With It
33. You Can't Make It Without God
34. I Just Want To Say... "Thank You Lord"
35. A Heart Like Thine
36. Just A Closer Walk With Thee
37. Give Me A Clean Heart So I Can Serve You
38. What Ever The Problem God Has The Answer
39. Peace — In The Midst Of My Storm
40. I Am On The Right Road, Now!
41. A Good Man In A Bad Situation
42. Good Medicine For A Bad Ailment
43. Stand Up And Testify
44. Bad Boys! What You're Going To Do When He Comes For You
45. Angels Just Keep Watching Over Me
46. Go Ahead! Make My Day
47. A Trip To The Cross
48. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! He Is Somebody's Preacher
49. On The Day Of Pentecost
50. Jesus Is All That! And A Whole Lot More
51. Muddy Putty In The Potter's Hands
52. When Stress Controls You Jesus Consoles You
53. Black Men And Women, Young And Old, Changing A Generation
54. I Am Black But I Am Somebody
55. Staying Afloat In A Sinking Boat
56. He That Has A Friend Must Show Himself Friendly
57. Victory Is Mine
58. Occupy Till I Come
59. A Man On A Mission / The Borrowed Ax
60. Busy In God's Business
61. That's Just Like Mama
62. He's Alive And I Am Glad About It
63. What The World Needs Now Is Love Sweet Love
64. I Moved From My Old House And My Old Friends
65. I Just Want To Know Why
66. What Do You Do When Life Is Not Fair
67. Why Do Bad Things Happen To Good People
68. What Do You Do When Your Brook Runs Dry
69. Diagnosis From Dr. Jesus, Go And See The Dr.
70. Who Is This Man
71. What Would Jesus Do
72. If I Could But Touch The Hem Of His Garment
73. Come See A Man
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74. Wounded By The Ones You Love
75. How To Stand In The Storms Of Life
76. Don't Quit
77. Speak To Me Lord Jesus
78. Get Behind Me Satan
79. Good Things Happen When Jesus Shows Up
80. Where Are You? Adam
81. Committed Because I Am Submitted
82. Are You A Disciplined Disciple
83. Answering God's Call
84. Too Blessed To Be Stressed
85. Thrilled By His Will
86. These Things Only Come By Prayer And Fasting
87. Just Like Daddy
88. I Got Two Wings And The World Can't Do Me No Harm
89. The Prayer Of Jabez
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MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Shelby, NC is currently accepting applications for a pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. The Church is affiliated with the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Association, and the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. Interested applicants should provide the following:

Resume (including pastor experiences and educational qualifications)

A copy of religious credentials (license/ordination)

At least three personal references (no family)

Send information to:

Pastor Search Committee

Mount Calvary Baptist Church

P.O. Box 3181

Shelby, N.C. 28151-3181

HOPPERS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Shelby, N.C., is now accepting resumes for the position of pastor. Potential candidates must be a born again Christian with strong Baptist roots. Hoppers Chapel is a member of the Ebenezer Baptist Association. All applicants must pos-

sess the following qualifications.

- Must be ordained and licensed
- Must have at least 1 yr. Pastoral experience
- Must provide credentials of theological training
- Must be an effective teacher and counselor
- Must possess extensive knowledge of Baptist Doctrine
- Provide a mission statement for the church
- Live in close proximity to the church

The applicant must have the ability to plan and implement a growth strategy for both the spiritual and physical growth of the church.

Send all resumes to:

Hoppers Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

C/O Pulpit Committee

415 West Graham St.

Shelby, N.C. 28150

NEW MOUNT OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

of Asheville, NC, is currently accepting applications for the position of Pastor. Interested

applicants should provide the following:

- Resumé
- Religious Credentials (Certificate of Ordination, License)
- Three Personal References

Please send information by November 30th, 2002, to:

New Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church

Pastoral Search Team

2 Herman Avenue

Asheville, NC 28801-4357

828-253-0749

CHURCH STAFF

MUSICIANS:

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE:

1. Born-again Christian, Spirit-filled, and divinely gifted in music ministry.
2. Willingness to spiritually align the music ministry with Pastoral vision.
3. Above to play the piano. Keyboard and/or organ; able to read music and versatile.
4. Able to prepare choirs for Sunday morning worship services and other services.

5. Able to teach, as, well as direct choirs, with humility and love.

6. Able to rehearse with all choirs on schedule, and available for all Sunday services.

7. Able to accompany Pastor and choirs to other services as required (or ensure qualified substitute is available).

8. Able to select appropriate hymns and songs for worship.

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MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED:

Wake Forest congregation seeks musician. 1) The duties include working directly with the Pastor in order to assist and cooperate with him in Christian Worship, 2.) Playing during Sunday morning worship service, 3). Rehearsing with various choirs one night per week, 4.) And accompanying the Pastor on engagements to other churches. Please forward a cover letter and resume to: Evans Grove Missionary Baptist Church
12700 Creedmoor Road
Highway 50
Wake Forest, NC 27587
(919) 870-8874

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY: THE SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH seeks a Minister of Music to provide

musical direction and accompaniment for 4 choirs in the church. This person will work closely with the Pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the ministry of Jesus Christ through music, i.e. hymns, spiritual songs, and praise and worship music that glorifies God.

We are accepting resumes from candidates with the appropriate qualifications. **(SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS AT BEGINNING OF CHURCH MUSICIAN SECTION):** For additional information please send inquiry or resume to: SPRING GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
PO Box 924, Warrenton, NC 2589
Rev. Dennis G. Lindsay, Pastor

MUSICIAN NEEDED: Must be a Christian available to serve every Sunday. Prepare Choirs and Praise Team for Sunday morning worship. Rehearse with choirs on scheduled times. Be available to accompany Pastor and choirs to church functions. Direct congregation in congregational hymns. Must be able to play by ear as

well as read music
To apply call:
(704) 532-6813 or E-mail to
GalileeNC@aol.com
GALILEE MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH
PO. Box 644, Oakboro, NC 28129

CHURCH MUSICIAN VACANCY: FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Selma, NC, seeks musician for youth choir. Must be a Christian with good character.

Requirements:
• Play the organ and piano
• Able to play sacred and gospel music
• Read music and have the ability to play by ear
Send resume to:
Reverend S. Manfred Isom, Pastor
415 Star Ruby Drive
Knightsdale, NC 27545

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: THE PENN AVENUE MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH of Lewiston is seeking a musician for a station church, a Christian, who is

responsible, has good character and a good reputation.
Requirements:
*Plays the organ and piano
*Able to work with a diverse group of singers
*Experienced in all sacred music
*Reads music and is versatile in playing by ear
Send resumes or responses to:
Mount Olive Baptist Church
PO Box 214
Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849
Attention: William W. Peele, Jr.

MINISTER OF MUSIC WANTED: THE PENN AVENUE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Oxford, NC, is currently seeking a Minister of Music.
QUALIFICATIONS:
(SEE SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS LISTED IN BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION)
*Will be responsible with the pastor's approval in hiring other musicians if deemed necessary.
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Sunday worship services. Service begins each Sunday at 11 a.m. with the exception of 5th Sunday services which begin at 10 a.m. Please send resume to the above listed address or inquiries may be made by calling one of the above listed numbers.

CHURCH MUSICIAN NEEDED: Knowledge of music and the ability to play by ear is appreciated. Presently, morning worship service is held every fourth (4th) Sunday, but we are considering an additional Sunday for services. Must be able to play for youth choir and adult choir. Church is located in Warren County, North Carolina. For further information, please call: (252) 257-0221

MINISTER OF MUSIC NEEDED: **EMMANUEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH** is seeking Full-time Christian Minister of Music. Loyal and (Committed to Gods program.) Must possess people skills, be trained as a musician, Conductor, and Choir Director. Salary: Commensurate with training and experience. Interested persons may send resume/portfolio to: Attention: Trustees Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church

913 N. Highland Street
Gastonia, NC 25052

CHURCH MUSICIAN: THE CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH of Gibson, N.C. is seeking a person to serve as Church Musician. Qualifications: (PLEASE SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION) Salary negotiable. Please send resume to Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church at this address.
CEDAR GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
14600 Railroad St.
Gibson, NC 28343

CHURCH MUSICIAN: THE FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH is accepting resumes for a Church Musician. Qualifications: (SEE GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS LISTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE STAFF: MUSICIAN SECTION) Salary negotiable:
715 West Willis Ave.
High Point, NC 27260

THE GREATER PINEY GROVE

BAPTIST CHURCH is seeking an experienced, dynamic worship and praise Minister of Music. We seek a person who first and foremost has a passion for God and His Word, then a passion for people and for music. This person will be responsible for directing, managing, and developing all functions and aspects associated with planning and implementing a comprehensive Church Music Ministry.

A person in this position must possess formal training and expertise in the area of music, has excellent organizational skills, and the ability to work cooperatively with a diverse group of people.

EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS
Bachelor of Science Degree in Music with concentration in choral, church, or music education, a minimum of two years of work experience as Minister of Music or Minister of Music Assistant in a similar Church environment.

An Instrument skill proficiency test is required on piano and organ. Must possess the ability to organize and prioritize tasks, events, and activities; ability to work under pressure of deadlines; make decisions; and establish effective working relationships with the Pastor, choir members, church members, supervisor, and church community.

•Resumes will be accepted until August 31, 2002. Start date for this position will be December 31, 2002.
•If the Holy Spirit excites you about

this opportunity to serve God, and you meet the qualifications and expectations described above, we would love to hear from you. Please e-mail your resume to or mail it to: The Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church
1879 Glenwood Avenue, S.E.
Atlanta, GA 30313
Attn: Personnel Committee

JEFFRIES CROSS BAPTIST CHURCH

Send cover letter and resume to Jeffries Cross Baptist Church, 2015 Jeffries Cross Rd., Burlington, NC 27217. Phone: 336-226-9626. We are currently seeking a musician who will work directly with the pastor to provide spiritual leadership in the music ministry. Qualifications: 1. A Christian with piano, keyboard, organ ability; read music, play chords, teach harmony, direct choirs, conduct two rehearsals per month with four choirs, accompany pastor on engagements, accommodate traditional and contemporary worship styles.

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ST. JAMES MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
of Henderson, NC, is seeking a pastor with strong Missionary Baptist roots. Interested applicants should provide the following:

1. A resume or letter of interest
2. A copy of religious credentials: License/Ordination
3. Three personal references (no family references)

Send information to:
St. James Missionary Baptist Church
The Pulpit Committee
ATTN: Deacon John D. Ellis
Post Office Box 2205
Henderson, North Carolina 27536

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Responsibilities

- Assist the Executive Secretary-Treasurer in informing, inspiring, and encouraging investment in Christian missions around the world through Lott Carey.
- Direct the Annual Youth Seminar (includes planning and coordinating logistic recruitment and training of leaders, coordinating service learning and community outreach partnerships, and evaluations)
- Direct the Youth Department Activities during the Annual Session and throughout the year
- Plan and lead annual youth international missions assignments for high school juniors and seniors
- Plan and lead periodic international missions assignments for young adults and youth leaders
- Provide staff support for the Wendell C. and Alice E. Sommerville Scholarship Program
- Assist in youth development and program development among international partners
- Facilitate short-term student missions assignments

Requirements

- Graduate degree in theological studies or related disciplines
- Passion for global Christian missions
- Commitment to Christian formation and leadership development among your young adults, and their leaders
- Strong relational, team building, and leadership skills
- Capacity to cultivate and participate in shared ministry
- Aptitude in applying communication and administrative technology
- Ability to keep accurate records and evaluate programs
- Capability to work effectively with female and male youth and adults of African heritage
- Ability to supervise student interns

Compensation is commensurate with education and experience.

Forward a letter of introduction, resume, and three letters of reference by December 31, 2002 to:

Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention
Office of International Youth Development
300 I (Eye) Street, NE, Suite 104, Washington, DC 20002

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910/424-2344

Itinerary

Sun July 13 Raleigh-Durham/West
Coast via United

Mon July 14 Depart West Coast via
Singapore Airlines

Tue July 15 Arrive in Hong Kong

You are met in the Arrival Hall by your Travelink representative and transferred by deluxe motor coach to your hotel for 6 nights. Balance of day at leisure to rest and explore on your own.

Wed July 16 Hong Kong

Buffet breakfast at hotel. This morning depart the hotel by air-conditioned coach via the bustling crowded city of Kowloon to traverse the world-renowned Victoria Harbor via the Crossharbor Tunnel. We then drive by Wanchai to reach Victoria Peak for a breathtaking 360-degree view of the bustling harbor, Hong Kong Island and Kowloon as far as the eye can see. From Victoria Peak the tour continues passing by the scenic resort areas of Repulse Bay and Deep Water Bay. A stop is made at Stanley Market which is known for its great discounts on all kinds of merchandise from name brand clothing to souvenirs. We then continue to Aberdeen Village to see the many floating sampan fishing villages. Return to our hotel with time for lunch on your own before transfer to the conference site. 6:00PM 14th Baptist Youth World Conference opens.

Thu July 17 Attend 14th Baptist Youth
World Conference

Fri July 18 Conference

Sat July 19 Conference

Sun July 20 Conference closes at 1:00PM

Balance day of leisure.

Mon Jul 21 Depart Hong Kong

Buffet breakfast at hotel. Full day at leisure for shopping and personal activities. Hotel check-out by 12:00PM. 6:30PM transfer by private coach to airport for return flights.

BAPTIST INFORMER

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